Sandwell
CHRONICLE

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Labour MPs urge government to help ex-workers

CALL TO FIND JOBS FOR CAPARO STAFF

Report by Richard Guttridge

THE Government must act to ensure more than 300 Black Country workers who lost their jobs at steel giant Caparo are able to get back into work, Labour MPs have said.

Staff at five sites in Darlaston, Oldbury, Dudley, West Bromwich and Cradley Heath were told by administrators on Friday they were being made redundant with immediate effect.

Around 50 former and current Caparo employees were invited to the Job Centre in West Bromwich High Street on Saturday in a bid to find a new career. The Job Centre in Temple Street, Wolverhampton, also opened up especially for Caparo workers, providing the same service. Caparo Atlas Fastenings in Heath Road, Darlaston was worst hit with 122 workers made redundant.

A total of 68 jobs have gone at Caparo Precision Tubes in Oldbury, as well as 64 at Caparo Forging Europe in Dudley, 59 at Fairbright Wire in West Bromwich and 10 at the Cradley Heath CMT Engineering plant. The Darlaston, Dudley and West Bromwich sites closed with immediate effect.

Devastating

Labour's deputy leader and West Bromwich East MP Tom Watson said the onus was on the Government to support those who had been left jobless after years of service to the company.

He said: "This is devastating news for employees and their families. My thoughts are with them. The Government must act immediately to ensure all those affected are given the help they need to find new jobs, including financial assistance to retrain if necessary.

"These are highly-skilled workers that our region and our country cannot afford to lose. A government that is quick to talk about the importance of industrial strategy should ask itself why it has failed to provide financial support to the British steel industry."

Walsall North MP David Winnick added: "It was expected arising from the present situation. Nevertheless it is a heavy blow for the locality and the Black Country generally. It also undermines the constant claims the Government puts out that the economy is improving."

Councillor Keith Chambers, who represents Bentley and Darlaston North, said: "I have a good number of family members who have worked there over the years and I know Caparo has been considered a firm you could stay with for years."

MUDASSIR'S HOT STUFF AFTER CHEF AWARD WIN

Head chef at Shika's, Mudassir Ahmed celebrates being given one of the Curry Life Chef of the Year awards. He lives in Great Barr

A CHEF from the Black Country has been voted one of the best in the UK at a top awards ceremony.

Mudassir Ahmed, head chef at Shika's Indian Takeaway in Great Barr, was named one of the top 40 curry chefs in the country at the Curry Chef of the Year Awards.

Mr Ahmed, who has worked at the restaurant in Birmingham Road for 15 years, said he was delighted to receive the award.

"I was so happy to win, it was a great feeling," Mr Ahmed said. "It was customer nominated so that was fantastic and I'd like to thank everyone who put me forward. This means a lot to me and a lot of hard work has gone into it.

"To win this title is the greatest vote of confidence I could wish for, not just for myself but for my team who work so hard. The award will inspire us to keep improving and I'd also like to thank all our customers for their help putting us on the map."

Guest of honour at the awards ceremony was Lord Karan Bilimoria, founder chairman of Cobra Beer. He said: "There is no doubt that curry is the nation's favourite food and behind the great tastes of curry, are great craftsmen.

"Those chefs have been awarded by Curry Life, deserves to be congratulated for their hard work and achievements."

MP Keith Vaz, who is the Chair of the Home Affairs Select Committee, praised the chefs for producing the best quality curries in Great Britain. Other guests at the event included Sadiq Khan, Labour Party's London Mayoral Candidate, Paul Scully MP, Rupa Haq MP, Angela Rayner MP, Wes Streeting MP and Paula Sherriff MP.

ENTERTAINMENT

Star of Lenny drama Kascion in switch-on

THE Wednesbury star of Sir Lenny Henry's drama Danny and the Human Zoo will switch on Dudley's Christmas lights.

Kascion Franklin, aged 27, has the honour of launching the annual festive celebration. The drama was written by Sir Lenny and is a fictionalised account of his life as a teenager growing up in Dudley.

Kascion said: "It's a real honour to be asked to switch on the lights." It takes place on Saturday, November 14 at 5pm, following five hours of fun in Stone Street Square and Churchill Shopping Centre.

DEVELOPMENT

Former pub site housing scheme

HOMES will be built on a disused former pub site in West Bromwich, under new plans. A planning application has been submitted to Sandwell Council for the derelict old Mill Pub site in Beaconview Road.

Developer Mr S Singh hopes to get permission to build 11 homes on the land. The pub was constructed in the 1960s but fell into disrepair after it was targeted by arsonists and abandoned in 2010. Residents had hoped a new health centre could be built on the site.

LEISURE

Calling all Santas for dash at park

THE first ever Santa Dash is due to take place in Sandwell on Saturday December 5. All ages are welcome to join in the fun event, which starts at 10am at Sandwell Valley showground.

Red-suited runners can walk, jog or run 2km around the country park. Mytime Active is organising the event, supported by Sandwell Leisure Trust and Sandwell Council.

To reserve a place – and Santa suit and medal – people can register online before November 22 at www.mytimeactive.co.uk/santa-dash-sandwell where there will also be more information on the event.

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WRESTLER HAS BRAZIL IN SIGHT

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Protesters show solidarity for Tunisia

Protesters with their placards

PROTESTERS united in support of Tunisia during a demonstration in the Black Country.

Around 20 people gathered outside Thomas Cook at Oldbury Green Retail Park on Oldbury Ringway in protest against Foreign Office guidance against all but essential travel to the country.

The event was organised by the Tunisian Association in Britain and included a minute's silence in memory of the victims of the Sousse terror attack in June. Organiser Mehdi Bahi, who is originally from Tunis and has lived in the UK for eight years, said supporters had gathered 'in sympathy and solidarity'. The 33-year-old car industry worker who lives in Oldbury, said: "We are protesting against the Foreign and Commonwealth Office as they have and are still advising against all but essential travel to Tunisia. We do understand the fact that they lost lives, but we believe that that's what the terrorists wanted – to stop the tourism industry.

"We believe that it is unfair because you can go and book a holiday to Turkey, but not to Tunisia. We are supporting the Tunisians."

Sales manager Rob Johnson, 59, from Woburn Crescent, West Bromwich, said: "We are British people who are concerned about the Tunisian cause and the employment situation over there. I've had a couple of holidays to Tunisia, it's a place I would like to visit again. Whilst I understand after the tragedy there needs to be caution, I would like to have the choice to go there."

The terror attack claimed the lives of Joel Richards, 19, from Wednesbury, his uncle Adrian Evans, 49, a Sandwell Council worker from Bilston and grandfather Patrick, aged 78.

Cancer patients hit out over trust move

CANCER patients in Sandwell fear they will find it impossible to attend appointments if they are made to travel up to 30 miles elsewhere.

The trust that runs Sandwell and City Hospitals is currently trying to find another site to run some of its cancer treatment services after a deal with the University Hospitals Birmingham Trust (UHB) was scrapped.

Currently, consultants from the Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham provide oncology clinics at Sandwell and City Hospitals but discussions about continuing the services have collapsed after concerns over costs and 'quality of care'.

The Birmingham trust said it would no longer deliver the services from April 2016 unless an 'alternative mutually acceptable solution' can be agreed. Tony Waite, finance director at the Sandwell and West Birmingham Trust, which runs Sandwell and City Hospitals, has said discussions have already begun with other sites about taking on some services.

This has sparked fears with cancer sufferers that they will be forced to travel to 30 miles to Coventry or to Wolverhampton, which are the nearest alternative centres.

Terminal

Stephanie Cartwright, from West Bromwich, has survived breast cancer twice and currently has to attend appointments every three months. The 49-year-old mother of four said: "I have a friend who is terminal, she may only have a few years, and she said she is going to be dead sooner than later because she is not going to be able to go to Coventry.

"This is going to have a tremendous effect on the future for people diagnosed with cancer, it is not like Sandwell and West Birmingham is a small area, it is a lot of people's lives. Cancer is one of the most stressful things, I wouldn't wish it on anyone, and this will be an added stress."

A University Hospitals Birmingham Trust spokesman said its consultants had raised concerns about the quality of service they been able to offer and Sandwell and City Hospitals, and following 'very lengthy negotiations', had not been able to agree a new model for delivering services.

Band heralds its new premises

From left, Becky Rumens-Syratt, Cliff Parker (Musical Director), Saphran Ali, Jean-Francois Berthiaume (Solvay Site Director), Gemma Salt, with the cake to celebrate the new premises for Langley Band

IT'S MUSIC to their ears as members of one of the oldest brass bands in the Midlands celebrates moving to refurbished new premises – thanks to a chemical firm stepping in to help.

Langley Band, founded in 1878, has relocated after its original base was in badly need of repair. Now Oldbury-based chemical group Solvay is renting the new 'band room' in Trinity Street, Oldbury, to the musicians. The firm has hit the right note in helping the band as its first rehearsal was provided more than a century ago by Billy Albright, of Albright & Wilson, the company which was previously established on the Solvay site.

The band, whose original premises, in Langley Park, were badly in need of repair, celebrated their move with a small party at the new band room, where they cut a trumpet-shaped cake and gave a short performance. The group, which comprises around 28 musicians, is led by director Cliff Parker.

Langley Band chairman, Alan Greenwood, said: "The minutes of our meetings show that the first discussions about updating our premises took place in 1947. Nearly 70 years have passed since then and our original premises had become very dilapidated, hence we urgently needed to find an alternative venue. Having approached Solvay last year, we were overwhelmed by their response. It's no overstatement to say that this has given the band a whole new lease of life."

The band is self supported, relying solely on proceeds from concert fees, recordings, donations and members subscriptions. Jean-François Berthiaume, of Solvay, said: "We are delighted to be helping Langley Band and we hope that these new premises will serve them well for many years to come."

Court order broken by ex who went on rampage

A MAN broke a court order to stay away from his former partner barely two months after it had been made, a judge heard.

Derlip Kumar shouted and banged on the door of the Oldbury home of the woman with whom he lived for 11 years until they parted, Wolverhampton Crown Court heard. The 35-year-old smashed his fist down on the roof of her car as she tried to flee with their eight-year-old son on July 5.

Mr Duncan Craig, prosecuting, explained: "His former partner said the blow was struck with such force it resonated throughout the vehicle with a very loud bang. She has since told officers that she is constantly living a nightmare because of his behaviour."

Police were alerted as Kumar drove away from the address in Lodge Road, Oldbury. He accelerated and escaped before a police car – travelling in the opposite direction – could complete a three point turn to give chase but he was arrested soon afterwards.

Kumar then spent over three months in custody waiting for the case to be resolved and Mr John Evans, defending, said: "He was not thinking straight when the offence was committed but this period of cooling off has enabled him to reflect on where his life is going." Kumar of Babbington Road, Handsworth admitted breaching a non molestation order, dangerous driving and criminal damage. He was given an eight month jail term suspended for 18 months and banned from driving for a year.

Club hopes are dealt a blow

CAMPAIGNERS fighting to save the old Halesowen Members Club have been dealt a blow after planning bosses raised no objections to proposals to knock it down and build a Lidl supermarket.

The council's senior planning policy officer David Piper said the demolition of the building was unlikely to have an adverse effect on the area.

He also said the building has been identified as making a 'negative contribution' to the quality of the town's historic built environment.

It comes as a blow to campaigners trying to keep the club on Hagley Road open. Around 80 people have signed a petition to try and save the venue, which was formerly the Halesowen Labour Club. Objections from residents nearby have also been lodged with the council.

Vintage fair due at town venue

A VINTAGE fair with 1960s songs is due at Wednesbury Town Hall on Saturday. And at Wednesbury Museum and Art Gallery, local singer Ian Casey will be performing. Visitors can also create vintage Christmas tree decorations. It takes place from 11am-4pm.

£150m set to upgrade 2 Sisters factories

A MAJOR food group, which was founded in West Bromwich, has doubled its profits in three months – and will now invest £150million to modernise its chicken factories.

There are hopes that the major investment could see 2 Sisters Food Group create substantial new jobs for the area.

The group, which is owned by Birmingham-based Boparan Holdings, has four of the 13 factories in its poultry division in the area and said the investment was to create world-class facilities for the division.

It reported the strong growth in profits despite a 13.5 per cent fall in sales for the last quarter of its financial year.

Pre-tax profit for the three months to August 1 was up from £8.8 million to £16.6m with sales down from £874.5m to £756.8m. For the full year sales for the group were down 8.2 per cent at £3.14 billion with operating profit slipping 34.3 per cent to £58.8m

Chief executive Ranjit Singh Boparan said: "Our aim is to build a better business. During 2015 we focused on costs, efficiency, investment, innovation and deepening customer relationships."

He said the group was making a number of important investments with the aim of providing customers and consumers with innovative products, better value and reduced waste. He said the major £150m investment programme in the poultry business would 'completely revolutionise' its supply chain end-to-end.

Fire-hit pub to get an overhaul

A PUB that was badly damaged by a fire will get a £325,000 overhaul.

The Moon Under Water, in High Street, Cradley Heath, was closed for two days in September following the blaze that was believed to have been started by a discarded cigarette.

It caused damage to the front entrance of the Wetherspoons pub, its structure and sign.

Now alongside planning proposals for repairs, it has now been revealed that a major refurbishment of the pub will also take place.

The aim is to carry out the refurbishment before Christmas, with as little disruption as possible.

The pub may need to close for a short period, but this has not yet been confirmed.

Cafe scheme for post office site

A FORMER post office in Walsall will be transformed into a cafe under plans poised to create two jobs. The building in Spring Road, Shelfield, has been vacant since April last year and plans have now been lodged.

Fire at church hall was arson attack

Firefighters seen at the church hall

A FIRE that destroyed a church hall in Rowley Regis was arson, it has been confirmed.

The building next to Knowle Methodist Church in Dudley Road suffered severe smoke damage following the blaze, which raged in multiple parts of the building.

Fire officers have confirmed the fire was started deliberately. The arsonists are thought to have got in through windows on the roof of the building.

The blaze has also put the church itself out of action temporarily as it is on the same gas line so cannot be heated. Services due to be held at the weekend were cancelled.

Reverend Caroline Wickens, superintendent minister for the Dudley and Netherton circuit, said churchgoers had been left shocked by the attack. "It's just very sad. This is a wonderful congregation who work ever so hard and for something like this to happen to them is a real blow," she said.

"There is no actual damage to the church but because the gas is on the same line we cannot use the church."

Attention will now turn to getting the church hall repaired and reopened as quickly as possible. Rev Wickens said: "We do have insurance and that will be a matter for them to discuss. It is certainly not going to be usable in the immediate future."

Eric Bowater, aged 83, has been the church secretary for 30 years and first attended when he was three. He said the church hall, which is used by various community groups, had suffered from vandalism in the past.

He said: "The firemen said it was arson. I just can't see a point to it, I have no idea why they have done it."

Leisure centre in line for £600,000 revamp

AROUND £600,000 will be spent refurbishing a leisure centre in Great Barr which had been saved from the axe by a community campaign.

Beeches Pool and Leisure Centre was taken over by a third party contractor last April following a campaign backed by around 3,000 people.

It faced an uncertain future after cost-cutting plans were revealed by cash strapped Birmingham City Council.

The centre is now part of Birmingham Community Leisure Trust which is run in partnership by Serco and the city council.

And now a large cash injection is planned to boost facilities and bring more people into the centre, off Beeches Road. The centre's gym will be expanded up onto the first floor of the building.

More than 50 new fitness machines and equipment will be based in the new upper floor gym. The existing gym on the ground floor near changing rooms will be transformed and upgraded with newer equipment.

Restraints

There will be a new ground floor treatment room created alongside a revamp of the changing rooms. A new sauna and team room are also set to be created and work will be completed by the end of this year.

Birmingham City Council's assistant director for sport and events, Steve Hollingworth said: "Despite the considerable budgetary restraints that we face, Serco's appointment will help us ensure that we can continue to support and encourage people to be active and enjoy a healthy lifestyle."

It already has a large swimming pool used for lessons and aqua classes and for children's birthday parties. A petition signed by 3,000 people was presented to council bosses by campaigners Karen Hamilton and Jon Hunt in support of keeping the centre which is also home to Perry Beeches Swimming Club. The council transferred the running of the centre over to Birmingham Community Leisure Trust, which came into force on June 1. It is responsible for Beeches Pool alongside others, including Wyndley Leisure Centre in Sutton Coldfield and new builds in Ladywood and Erdington.

Meanwhile Alexander Stadium, on the A34 Walsall Road, which hosted high profile athletics meetings, has also been brought under a changed management structure.

Chinu muscles in on Olympics bid

Champion wrestler Chinu Sandu with his father Paramjit Sandhu and Kamal Banger his coach

A WRESTLER from Oldbury who has been training since the age of four has won a British Championship in his weight category and is now dreaming of gold at next year's Olympics.

Chinu Sidhu said he was 'always' going to wrestle after following in his grandfather's and father's footsteps – who were keen wrestlers – as a youngster in India. He had his first taste of glory as a seven-year-old, winning in the district championships. Moving to the UK when he was around 14, Chinu won both the junior and senior competition for his age group at 16 and on Saturday October 24 won the 2015 British Championship in the 125kg freestyle, which was held at Aldersley Leisure Centre, Wolverhampton.

Chinu competed in two bouts, where he overcame his opponents in less than six minutes altogether. He previously won a bronze medal at last year's Commonwealth Games, losing to the eventual gold medal winner. Now the full time wrestler will compete in the qualifying rounds at the end of this month in a bid to reach the Olympics in Brazil next year.

Chinu, aged 28, said: "I'm over the moon to have won this championship. Achieving something like this helps you grow in confidence and makes you more determined to go on and achieve more in this sport. It's 24/7 thing for me, I never switch off. I won the championship on Saturday and I was back training on Sunday morning. That's the work ethic I've been brought up with.

"I would love to compete in the Olympics, it would be a dream come true. I'm striving for a gold medal but Brazil next year might just be out of reach."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Lorry plunges off motorway

A LORRY left the M5 and plunged down an embankment with the driver having to be freed from the cab with the help of firefighters.

Emergency services were called to the southbound carriageway of the M5 between junction 5 for Droitwich Spa and junction 6 for Worcester at around 9.15am last Friday.

West Midlands Ambulance Service said a Land Rover had also been involved and its driver, a man in his 50s, suffered a 'medical episode'. Two rapid response vehicles and a paramedic support officer were called.

More flights to Copenhagen

SCANDINAVIAN Airlines is increasing the number of flights from BirminghamAirport to Copenhagen from 12 per week to 16 from June next year.

Bosses say the additional four services to the Danish capital will give business travellers more flexibility, particularly if they wish to return on the same day. The new flights will operate on Mondays, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, departing from Copenhagen at 8pm and arriving into Birmingham at 9pm. The Birmingham departure is scheduled for 9.40pm, arriving into Copenhagen at 12.30am.

Wine festival in Birmingham

LOVE Wine is a new wine festival taking place in Birmingham city centre.

The festival on Saturday is being hosted at Hotel du Vin in Church Street from 11.30am to 7.30pm.

Cure Leukaemia has been chosen as the official charity partner for the event which will see more than 30 exhibitors showcasing wines from all over the world.

More than 250 wines will be available for tasting at the festival organised by BYWine,

Birmingham date for Richie Blackmore

FORMER Deep Purple and Rainbow guitar legend Ritchie Blackmore has announced a one-off UK show.

He will play the Genting Arena at the Birmingham National Exhibition Centre on June 25 next year to celebrate the music he made with the two heavy rock bands.

Tickets for the concert will go on sale today. Blackmore joined Deep Purple in 1968 and had hits like Black Night and Smoke on the Water before leaving in 1975 to form Rainbow.

Homes on the rise

A LANDMARK former bakery site in Walsall is poised to get approval to be transformed into a housing estate. The old Maple Leaf site in Raleigh Street, Birchills, will be replaced with 80 new homes under the plans.

Walsall Council planning officers have recommended the scheme.

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THE BEST OF PETER RHODES

A READER says he cannot take much more James Bond. After so many trailers, guest appearances, premieres, interviews and the rest of the Bond ballyhoo, he feels he has already seen Spectre several times over. He asks: "Has 007 never heard of overkill?" Probably not.

SPARE us the surprise and the big, panicky headlines over the World Health Organisations' latest claim that bacon and other processed meats can cause cancer. If you have the Full English Breakfast often enough, it may turn into the Full English Tumour. But this is not news. The link between meat, especially processed meat, and cancer has been known for years. A study of 500,000 Europeans concluded that those who eat two portions of meat a day increase their risk of bowel cancer by more than a third compared to those who eat it once a week. And that was in 2005. How quickly we choose to forget information we don't like. Or maybe bacon is seriously bad for your memory.

DOES a day go by without supporters of Jeremy Corbyn proudly boasting of his massive mandate? Corbyn took a whopping 59.5 per cent of the vote. That's 251,417 of the 422,664 votes cast and it looks impressive. But, lest we forget, the Labour-leadership election was open not only to existing Labour Party members but to the entire nation. Virtually anyone could pay £3 to register as a Labour 'supporter' and they had many weeks in which to do it. So here was a transforming event, a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for all the angry, disaffected folk in the UK to rise up and support a new sort of politics. Here was a chance for 45 million potential voters to throw their weight behind a genuine Left-wing politician, for less than the price of a pint. Corbyn's 251,417 votes represents only about one voter in every 180 in the UK. That 'massive mandate' is maybe not so massive, after all.

SAUDI Arabia's ambassador to Britain complained a few days ago of a lack of respect for his country and deplored an "alarming change in the way Saudi Arabia is discussed in Britain." A couple of days later, one Saudi prince was detained in Lebanon following the biggest drug seizure in the history of Beirut airport. The next day, another Saudi prince was accused of assaulting three American woman and holding them captive at a mansion in Beverly Hills. Respect? You earn it.

WE worry about a shortage of pumpkins forcing us to use turnips for Halloween lanterns . . . A few hundred miles away, on the borders of the Balkans, among that massive trudging queue of humanity, old folk and children, having survived the perils of the Med, will soon be freezing to death.

Don't miss Peter Rhodes every Monday to Friday in your Express & Star

Trader wins fight to sell alcohol

A SHOP in Sandwell has been given permission to sell alcohol despite attempts from a rival trader to block the application. Dalvinder Singh told a council hearing that allowing the Nash Supermarket in Brook Road, Oldbury to sell booze could lead to an increase in anti-social behaviour in the area, but this was disputed by the owners of the shop.

Mr Singh, who runs Teri's Supermarket on the same road, came under scrutiny when it emerged that traders he claimed had signed his petition objecting to Nash Supermarket's request, told the council they knew nothing about it.

Some of the same names also appeared on a petition set up in response by Nash Supermarket in support of their application.

But Mr Singh insisted he did not forge any signatures and said some people must have signed both petitions so as not to upset staff at Nash Supermarket as it was an established business. He told members of Sandwell Council's licensing committee: "The community at large feel it would be detrimental to the area."

But Mr Singh's claims were dismissed as nonsense by family members of owner Archhar Kaur. He admitted that the Nash Supermarket being allowed to sell alcohol could impact on his own business and they believe that fear of competition was the real reason for him objecting, though Mr Singh denied this.

The council's was swayed by the fact neither the police or Environmental Health raised any concerns about the shop selling alcohol or the prospect of anti-social behaviour.

Carving out a name for himself in pumpkin art

Report by Carl Jackson

IT started as an idea to create something special for his son. But now a Walsall man's 'spooktacular' pumpkins are the must-have Halloween decoration for some of London's swankiest nightspots – including Prince Harry's favourite haunts.

Nine years ago Simon Patel tried his hand at carving his own pumpkins for his new-born boy Dylan.

Such is the demand for the 39-year-old's talents that he spends two weeks in the build-up to Halloween creating up to 30 unique pumpkins for others. Customers include schools and businesses in the borough as well as trendy nightclubs such as Kensington's Bodo's Schloss or the capital's Mahiki bar – both of which are known to host A-list celebrities such as Prince Harry and runner Usain Bolt.

Mr Patel, of Primley Avenue, Alumwell, said: "It is incredible how it has happened so quickly. It is just mind-blowing. I just wish it was like this all year round."

Goblin

The house-husband, who has been a keen artist all of his life, admitted his first attempt left a lot to be desired but then he started picking up tips by watching American sculptor Ray Villafane on YouTube.

"When my boy was born I just wanted to do something special for him for Halloween," said Mr Patel.

"My first was a goblin, but it wasn't particularly good. I was using spoons and kitchen utensils but then I found out about using clay modelling tools.

"From there I just got better and better. I have really expensive equipment now. I must have spent about £100 on it."

While that might sound like an expensive hobby some of his creations, which range from traditional skulls to intricately detailed pirate faces, have fetched up to £75 each. Depending on the level of detail they can take as long as five hours to sculpt.

The father of two boys, Dylan, aged nine, and Dev, aged seven, used to decorate his own house with the pumpkins but now he said demand was so high that he did not have any time to make any for himself.

"I don't get much interest until this time of year but then the two weeks before Halloween everybody is asking for them," he added.

Simon Patel, very much in demand during Halloween thanks to his pumpkin carving creations

A caricature-carved pumpkin

Simon's artistry shining through

One of Simon's friendlier faces

The intricate detail of Simon's work

One creation with some real zip

A highly-stylised pirate's face

Tarmac set for biggest graduates recruitment

TARMAC is recruiting its biggest ever graduate intake. It is taking on 37 university leavers next year, nine of which will be based in the West Midlands.

The firm, which had its headquarters in Wolverhampton before its merger with Lafarge, is offering a variety of roles across its business, with each graduate position lasting for two years.

The scheme has been designed to build business skills and provide graduates with a real insight into the specialism that they choose – be it in general management, technical and engineering, operations management or finance.

The company still has a ready mix concrete plant in Millfields Road, Ettingshall.

Cyrille Ragoucy, chief executive of Tarmac, which is now based in Solihull, said: "The UK construction industry needs talented and highly-skilled people to help deliver the next generation of infrastructure supporting our economy and quality of life well into the future."

Tarmac recently welcomed 30 new starters in a variety of roles as part of its 2015 graduate scheme. In addition to its graduate recruitment programme, the company has an annual commitment to offer around 80 apprenticeship opportunities across the UK, lasting between one to five years.

For further information on Tarmac's graduate scheme or to apply, visit http://www.tarmacgraduates.com/

Upgrade move is welcomed

WALSALL'S environmental chief has welcomed plans to upgrade a 140-space car park which is covered in potholes at Walsall Arboretum.

Plans have been lodged by Walsall Council to make improvements to the arboretum extension car park, adjacent to Broadway North. The existing car park is inadequate to meet the needs of visitors as it is in an extremely poor condition.

Councillor Louise Harrison, Walsall Council's portfolio holder for clean and green said: "As a borough-wide and regional visitor destination enjoyed by tens of thousands of people each year, keeping on top of this type of disrepair will allow us to demonstrate that the people of Walsall have a well-founded sense of pride in this major asset."

Over-55s flats due for a spring finish

WORK on a £5 million development of apartments for over-55s at Walsall's Waterfront is on track to be completed by March next year.

The mix of one and two bedroom apartments will be wheelchair accessible and feature wet rooms.

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Woman 'lucky' as freezer alight

A WOMAN was lucky to escape unharmed after a fire started at her Smethwick home which did not have a working smoke alarm.

Flames engulfed the utility room of the property on Lewisham Road at around 6.36pm lastTuesday.

In total 15 firefighters were sent to the scene. It is suspected the fire came from the freezer. The flames completely burnt out the room and caused smoke damage to the entire house.

Crew commander Tony Calder, from Smethwick Fire Station, said: "There was one woman at the property. She was very lucky because the home had no smoke alarm."

Residents' views on cash sought

SANDWELL Council is asking residents to express their views on the budget. In light of cuts to Government funding, a budget planning survey has been launched. The response form will need to be submitted and sent to the council by November 16. Visit www.sandwell.gov.uk/consultation to complete it.

Albion FA Cup programme fetches £20k

The football programme from 1886

ONE of the rarest and most valuable West Bromwich Albion football programmes – which originally cost a tuppence when new – has sold at auction for £20,000.

The monumental 1886 FA Cup final programme between West Bromwich Albion and Blackburn Rovers was made up of just a single sheet, featuring the team line-ups and an advertisement on the back.

Described as 'extremely scarce in football memorabilia', the programme was sold this week at Graham Budd Auctions in a 'Sporting Memorabilia' auction in London. It was expected to sell for between £20,000 to £25,000 and was bought by a mystery bidder. It is particularly important as it was Albion's first ever appearance at an FA Cup final.

Auctioneer Graham Budd said: "There was lots of interest in both programmes and we were happy with the final outcome."

The programme would have originally cost a tuppence when new – equivalent to one pence in new money. The match was played at the Kennington Oval, now the Test-playing home of Surrey County Cricket Club, to a crowd of 15,000 on April 3.

The match finished 0-0, with one of the rules at the time being both teams needed to agree for extra time to take place. Albion were keen to continue but Blackburn Rovers refused, forcing a replay a week later at Derbyshire County Cricket Club's Racecourse Ground.

Just moments after the Albion programme was sold, a 1921 Wolverhampton Wanderers vs Spurs FA Cup final programme was also sold for £850. It cost sixpence when new.

14,000 get in the swim with free pool sessions

MORE than 14,000 people are now taking advantage of free swimming in Sandwell, new figures show.

Children and over-60s are able to swim for free at the borough's leisure centres. There are now a total of 14,260 swimmers registered onto the scheme – compared with 8,835 in 2013/14.

And there are also more than 4,000 students in the Swim School, which provides lessons for all ages and abilities.

Free sessions are available at Haden Hill Leisure Centre in Rowley Regis, Smethwick Swimming Centre, Langley Swimming Centre in Oldbury and Tipton Leisure Centre. People will also be able to swim at Wednesbury Leisure Centre when it opens on November 9.

Sandwell Council has agreed to run the scheme until April 2017 at a cost of £368,000

Sandwell Leisure Trust's chief executive Paul Slater said in the annual review: "The demand to learn to swim in Sandwell continues to grow year on year and we now have 4,345 Swim School students. We also continue to deliver Sandwell Council's free swimming initiative.

Teenagers

"There are now 14,260 Sandwell residents, aged 16 and under and 60+, registered onto the scheme enjoying 41,421 free swims."

The scheme allows adults, aged 60 and over to swim without charge during public swimming sessions, for seven days per week before 1pm, all year round. While children and teenagers can swim for free during school holidays.

A new initiative was introduced this year across all of Sandwell Leisure Trust's swimming pools, which bosses say has been well-received by both customers and staff.

The software package, which took some six months to introduce, enables the swimming teachers to use iPods poolside to record the progress of swimmers through skills and levels. This cuts down their admin time and frees them up for more teaching time. While parents and guardians can now track their child's progress online and see the availability of new places as they progress through the swimming programme.

Kirsty Beckett, swimming co-ordinator and teacher at Portway Lifestyle Centre, said: "This new initiative is a big success."

Membership of the leisure centres has also increased during the past two years from 21,754 in 2012/13 to 40,644 in 2014/15.

Axe wielding robber in failure

The CCTV image showing the attempted raid at Cash Brokers, based in Queensway, Halesowen

THIS is the terrifying moment an axe-wielding masked thug tried to smash his way through the window of a pawnbrokers in broad daylight. Shocked passers-by were forced to jump out of the way as the raider jumped out of a BMW with an axe outside Cashbrokers in Halesowen and then battered the glass with the weapon.

Shop manager Henry Hunter – who is a martial arts expert – shouted at the raider and his getaway driver and ran out to confront the pair. The thug, whose face was covered by a balaclava, dropped the axe seconds later and jumped back into the dark blue car which then sped off. Mr Hunter, aged 55, was serving a customer inside the store as the drama unfolded last Tuesday at around 10.30am.

Rather than being scared by the sight of a pair of robbers, Mr Hunter said 'the toerags' are lucky he didn't get his hands on them. The terrifying raid was captured on the shop's CCTV.

Father-of-five Mr Hunter is a black belt in karate, judo and kendo, and a grandmaster in aikido, but has not practised for around 10 years. He said: "At the end of the day him having an axe didn't worry me."

Mr Hunter, who trained in martial arts for most of his life, was helping a customer when the two men pulled up outside the pawnbrokers in Queensway at around 10.30am on Tuesday.

A staff member was replenishing the stock in the window when one of the would-be robbers ran up to the glass and struck it six or seven times. Luckily the windows are bullet-proof so managed to withstand the force of the weapon.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Homes scheme is thrown out

PLANS to turn a warehouse into a house of multiple occupation have been rejected. Krundil Developments wanted to turn the building, in Pennant Road, Cradley Heath, into a home with 22 rooms.

Eight objections were lodged by neighbours to the scheme, but the council had been advised to give the go-ahead to the plans.

Councillors rejected the scheme on the grounds of insufficient recycling facilities, lack of off-street parking and the building being too close to another home on the road.

Travellers moved off parkland

MORE than 20 caravans have been ordered off land near a school in Great Barr but have left rubbish behind.

Rubbish had been left on open land off Tanhouse Avenue between the Valley Club and entrance to the RSPB centre near Hamstead Infants School.

Travellers first pulled onto the site last Tuesday and the last vehicles left late on Monday. The costs of the clean up are not yet known but could run into hundreds of pounds. The travellers left after being issued with an enforcement order by police and following welfare checks by the council.

Jumping rabbits at NEC pet show

SHOW jumping rabbits will be returning to the National Pet Show at the Birmingham National Exhibition Centre this weekend.

The rabbits leap over a course of lightweight plastic jumps. If the rabbit knocks a jump down, a few seconds will be added to their time and the rabbit with the fastest time wins. It takes place five times a day in the Burgess Small Furries Zone, which will also play host to guinea pigs, hamsters, rats, degus and chinchillas.

Store to expand in latest proposals

A SUPERMARKET in Willenhall will expand with a new bakery and revamped entrance, under new plans that would create jobs.

Plans have been lodged to expand the Lidl store at the junction of New Road and Railway Lane. The proposals would increase the sales area by 1,108sq ft and incorporate a new bakery to the rear of the store.

A report, lodged with the plans, reads: "The proposal will enhance the customer shopping experience."

Meetings to be aired

COUNCIL meetings in Sandwell will be able to be viewed live online from the new year. Major meetings at the authority, including full council and the cabinet, will be streamed online.

The change has been made in an effort to allow more taxpayers to view what goes on during meetings.

IN MY VIEW
with Mark Andrews

Man, that ridiculous PC crowd are back

REALLY, I should be livid that the politically-correct barmpots have taken it upon themselves to indoctrinate our children yet further by banning the use of phrases such as 'sissy' or 'man-up' in the playground.

Aside from the fact that I am fairly sure that no schoolchild has said 'sissy' since about 1975, I do think the way that the education system abuses its privileged position to brainwash impressionable youngsters with political correctness and green ideology is one of the most sinister developments of the past 20 years or so.

Particularly as it has coincided with Britain's schools plunging down the world league tables in the things that really do matter, like reading, writing, and doing sums.

Groups of pupils will also be encouraged to inform on their peers to an appointed "Gender Champion". Wasn't that sort of thing supposed to have died out with the fall of the Berlin Wall and all that?

And yet, strangely enough, I do find myself agreeing with the PC brigade on at least one aspect of this assault on free speech.

'Man-up' is a truly hateful phrase, and children really should be taught that it is never acceptable to use it. In this context at least, 'man' is a noun, not a verb. Yes, you can man a car park. But you can't man-up, man-down or anything else. That's why teachers should be telling them it's banned.

■ ■ ■

A NEW survey, compiled by a think-tank nobody has ever heard of, says Wolverhampton and Sandwell are the two most miserable places in the UK.

Really? I can't believe that. I mean what do people in the West Midlands have to be miserable about?

After all, it's not as if we are constantly patronised by a liberal London elite which seems to revel in forcing its strange values on us, is it?

■ ■ ■

AND I bet if the people in power actually did start listening to folk in this area, they could save a bit of money.

Over the past few months we have been repeatedly been told how ministers of successive government were dazzled and 'mesmerised' by Camilla Batmanghelidjh, and were persuaded into pouring millions of pounds into the appallingly managed Kids Company. All the evidence suggests that much of this money has been wasted.

Yet, I bet if they had sought the advice of anybody from the Black Country, they would not have been 'mesmerised' at all. They would have come to the same conclusion that I did several years ago.

That Camilla Batmanghelidjh was just a fruitcake in silly clothes. And think how many police stations that would have paid for.

WOLVERHAMPTON PATRICK MULVANEY COPYRIGHT

Surjit Singh with his portrait as he is now and at aged 18

The younger generation take a selfie in front of the portraits

Faces tell the story of changing society

A unique exhibition illustrates the vital role of immigrants in the Black Country's recent past. **PETE MADELEY** reports

THEY travelled more than 5,000 miles in search of work in Black Country towns that were suffering from a chronic labour shortage in the aftermath of the Second World War.

But while migrants from South Asia have made a huge contribution to the rich tapestry of life in the region and beyond, their impact has been largely ignored in artistic circles.

Now the lives of some of the thousands who made the journey into the unknown from the Punjab region of India to Wolverhampton have been recognised in a unique arts project.

Exodus: Movement of a People, features a collection of personal photographs showing first generation migrants around the time they arrived in the old town in the 1960s.

Brainchild

The stark monochrome images are displayed alongside portrait photographs showing the individuals as they are now, some 50 years after they first set foot on the streets of Wolverhampton.

Currently on display at the Bantock House Museum, the project is the brainchild of Wolverhampton-born photographers Anand Chhabra and Sarvjit Sra, who say they wanted to build up a collection of images that define 'the true identity' of South Asian migrants.

The pair run Black Country Visual Arts, an organisation set up in 2014 that is committed to opening up new avenues of art across the region.

"There hasn't really been a drive to document the stories of people from the Punjab when they first came to England," said Anand, aged 43, from Warstones.

"We looked at the historical archives in Walsall, Sandwell and Wolverhampton and there is very little that speaks for this generation.

Photographers Anand Chhabra and Sarvjit Sra with their exhibition at Bantock House Museum

"It's something of a hidden community, partly because in the past people have perhaps not had the confidence or know-how to show their history in an artistic way. It was something we wanted to put right."

The group received funding from Arts Council England and set about the task of gathering photographs, firstly from friends and family and then from the wider community.

"We basically hit the streets for six months," said Sarvjit, 44, from Penn.

"It was a case of turning up in Blakenhall, Park Village and Bradmore and knocking doors and asking for old black and white photographs. We were asking them to hand over their prized possessions to people who they didn't know, so it wasn't easy.

"But gradually we started to build up trust within the community and people began to come on board."

The UK's ties with the Punjab date back to the mid-19th century, while many Sikhs served in the British Army and saw active service in both world wars.

Indians began to settle in the Black Country in the early 1950s and census records show there were 10 Indian families in Wolverhampton in 1954. By 1956 an Indian Workers Association was up and running with 150 members, but the bulk of migration would occur from 1961-71.

The first wave of migrants were primarily men from middle ranking peasant families, often with ties to the colonial army or police force. Often they would travel over and find work in the Black Country, with their families joining them once they were settled. Over that decade settlement from India and Pakistan to Wolverhampton rose from 1,756 to 12,120. A similar picture played out elsewhere around the Black Country, with Smethwick in particular attracting large numbers of migrants from the Punjab.

The search for employment was a key factor, with migrants attracted to the Black Country by the promise of jobs in foundries, steel works and clothing factories.

Sarvjit's father, Surjit Singh, is shown in one of the portraits, the 65-year-old clutching a photograph of himself sporting an Elvis hairstyle that was taken in 1966, a year before he came to Wolverhampton.

Surjit's father, who served in the British Army and the Indian Army, had come to England in 1963 after he was granted a work voucher. "My father came over and then he brought me over once he'd settled. My mother came later," said Surjit, who lives in Penn.

"A lot of people used to do that. I was 16 at the time and when I arrived I got a job threading brass in a factory on Wednesfield Road.

Exciting

"Everything was completely different from what I had known back home, but it was an exciting time."

Surjit went on to spend 35 years working for the Motor Components firm in Oxford Street, Bilston, that went on to become TRW Valves.

"I found the old picture when I went back to India last year," Surjit added. "I look at it now and think about how things have changed."

Harbans Lal came to Wolverhampton 1965 as a 12-year-old, joining his father who had arrived two years earlier.

"It was very difficult when I got here, a complete shock to me," said Harbans, now 65.

"Getting used to somewhere new, going to Springfield School and learning the language; it was a lot to take in."

The father of four served an apprenticeship at Guy Motors and then worked at Goodyear for 22 years. He now runs appliance store East and West Aid which is near his home in Blakenhall.

"Seeing the pictures it shows how much has changed. We were all so young. Now the new generation has grown up here."

The Exodus project runs at the Bantock House Museum until November 12.

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Labour's Tom and Jerry won't stay afloat

I READ the comments Mr S Harrison made in the Chronicle about his friend Tom Watson MP, now deputy leader.

I don't know where Watson had him from, but I am game for a laugh, when I read his letter it had me in stitches.

He asked who has the hardest job in politics – he reckons it's his friend Mssr Watson.

The only way I can answer this is, I don't know, because they are all the same.

He states that he must try to realign Labour with normal people, well, I'm one of the normal people so maybe he will tell me what Tom Watson has done for Sandwell to date?

He also said the time may be right for a more outright opponent – will he let us know when he finds one?

Then he goes on about the younger voters and the general public, so he is one of those who tell people who to vote for.

He then reckons Tom Watson is a blessing in disguise from under the table, well that's where they usually do go in hiding, isn't it?

I reckon Tom Watson is starting to show his true colours again.

Remember when he claimed he was being stalked and how he acted then – that was the first time.

The unions have only got to say to Watson and Corbyn 'jump!' and they will ask 'how high?'

When I read the headline I was in tears, just imagine Tom and Jerry at the helm of the Labour ship, it would be as unsinkable at the Titanic.

All I can say is Mr Harrison should keep his comments on his friends to himself.

J RUSHTON
Tipton

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

POST
Sandwell Chronicle,
Chronicle Editorial,
51-53 Queen Street
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES

EMAIL
sandwell.chronicle@expressandstar.co.uk

Letters should be brief and MUST include name, address and telephone number number. The Editor reserves the right to condense letters.

Parking fees plan is wrong

ONCE again it seems we are threatened with parking charges at Sandwell Valley. People go there to relax, not have to worry if their parking ticket will run out.

I love to walk my dogs down there, but I refuse to pay for car parking. There will (supposedly) be free parking from 7am to 9pm. Great in the summer, but this means we will be walking in the dark in winter. No thanks!

Why does Sandwell Council think motorists are cash cows? Why does the council have to provide 'more facilities' for the valley? The place is beginning to look like a theme park. Encouraging more people to use the area and then – especially in the case of two parks – killing 220 Canada Geese because they are a nuisance to visitors?

I do hope more people will protest against these charges as they will be the thin end of the wedge.

C ADAMS
Great Bridge

Service personnel need more support

WE are once again nearing Remembrance Sunday, poppies are once again on sale, and I sincerely hope that every person in the country chips in and buys one. But as a supporter of our Armed Forces, I find myself questioning why we the public are continually being asked to fund and support those who have in some cases laid down their lives, lost limbs and in a lot of cases their ability to function.

Why is it in today's society does our service personnel have to hold out the proverbial begging bowl, hoping that the British public will fill it? Why is it that successive governments have failed in their duty to our Armed Forces?

After all it was these so called knowledgeable MPs who sent them off to fight in the name of democracy. Why have they not allocated enough money to build houses, adapted existing ones to cater for their needs, ensuring that every serving soldier, sailor or airman whatever sex they may be are made to feel welcome back in the country they have been fighting to preserve. In closing I would like to add that the Poppy Appeal is well supported by the British public and the money raised has helped countless veterans.

K V JOYCE
Wednesbury

Ignorance of poppy decision

THE recent decision by a Premiership footballer not to wear a poppy because he is Southern Irish, shows such arrogance and ignorance at the same time.

Maybe he was right to say he felt uncomfortable due to Britain being involved in military conflicts that have affected him. But knowing he is in a position of elevated socially acclaimed coverage he may wish to remember that the poppy is also a symbol of peace.

The poppy does not depict war by itself but remembrance of war and all that it brings, the fallen injured, the grieving and all who are affected by conflict.

The poppy allies itself with humanity and from its foundations at Flanders has remained so.

The footballer would do well to recall Flanders is not in Ireland, and his privileged lifestyle is brought about by the very people we wear the poppy for.

S HARRISON
West Bromwich

Council criticised on delay returning children to carer

SANDWELL Council has been criticised for taking two weeks to return two young children to their foster carer after a criminal investigation into the adult was dropped.

The Local Government Ombudsman found shortcomings in the way the authority took the children from their placement. An investigation uncovered problems with the romoval of the six and seven-year-old from their beds 90 minutes after police told the authority their foster carer was due to be arrested.

The incident dates back to March 12, 2014, when 'a serious allegation' was made against the foster carer, known only in the report as Mr X.

When the council became aware he was due to be arrested, it sent in a support worker who removed the two children. After falling ill in police custody Mr X was taken to hospital and left on March 14. Although the police closed the case with no further action taken on March 27, the children were not returned to Mr X until April 10.

The report stated: "Although this is a relatively short period, the council's failure to carry out a strategy meeting raises the question whether it could have returned the children sooner if it had acted without fault."

The damning report has sparked calls for action in the department.

UKIP's Sandwell secretary Ric Keeling blasted the council's children's services and said change was needed. Mr Keeling said: "How much longer can Sandwell Council's children's services get away with this sort of behaviour? Someone has to be held to account."

In their report, the recommendations are that the authority apologises to Mr X and pays him a total of £1,500, apologises to the two children and pays them £500 each. It also suggested the council review its policy on recording discussions in safeguarding cases.

26pc paid less than Living Wage

SOME 560,000 people are paid less than the Living Wage in the West Midlands, according to new research published by KPMG. It means 26 per cent of the region's employees earn less than the Living Wage – three per cent higher than the UK average.

The West Midlands has the joint second highest proportion alongside the East Midlands, Wales and Yorkshire and Humber. The highest proportion is found in Northern Ireland, with 29 per cent.

The Living Wage outside of London is currently £7.85. The research, conducted by Markit for KPMG, shows that UK-wide the median wage is £11.61, but the West Midlands is again behind the curve, with that figure at £10.69 in the region having dropped 1.5 per cent in the year.

Birmingham aligns with the regional figure of 26 per cent and Wolverhampton slightly worse with 27 per cent.

Remembering Reuben with book launch

Front, Trevor Poulton, with All Saints Players, back, and co-authors Anne Wilkins and Pauline Lawley, seated, at the launch

HE was the first mayor of West Bromwich and held the post five times – and now the life of Reuben Farley is the subject of a new book.

West Bromwich History Society members, Pauline Lawley and Anne Wilkins, penned the book Reuben Farley – The Man of West Bromwich.

They gathered together extracts from past and present historians to depict the life of the popular figure.

They have also assembled extracts from writers such as newspaper columnist William Ellery Jephcott along with pieces from Carl Chinn and Richard Trainer. The book launch took place at All Saints Parish Church, in All Saints Way, with members of the All Saints Players drama group dressed in Victorian costumes to recite extracts from the book.

Ms Lawley explained that the book had come together many years of gathering information. She said: "I had collected information on Reuben Farley for many years after finding his gravestone close to the main entrance of Heath Lane Cemetery.

"As Reuben was an important local industrialist during the Victorian period, it was appropriate that five of the drama group were dressed in Victorian costume to give readings from the book." Reuben Farley, who was born in 1826 and died in 1899, was mayor of the town five times.

Ms Lawley said: ""We would like to thank everyone for their support in making the launch event a success," she added. For more information or to purchase a book for £10 contact Ms Lawley on paulinelawley@talktalk.net

Roadshows highlight new rights

A NUMBER of roadshows are due to take place promoting various new consumer rights which came into effect with new legislation on October 1. And Birmingham residents urged to attend.

As part of National Consumer Week, Birmingham City's council's trading standards officers have been visiting community venues across the city, all this week, to provide guidance on their enhanced rights under the new Consumer Rights Act.

The act makes it clear what protection customers have when they buy goods in stores or online which are later found to be faulty. People are now entitled to a full refund if they return faulty goods within 30 days of purchase. Councillor Barbara Dring, chairman of the city council's Licensing and Public Protection Committee, said: "The campaign is vital to ensure people both understand and have the ability to exercise these new rights, so I would encourage people to attend one of these events if they can.

"These roadshows, which are taking place during National Consumer Week, also provide an opportunity for people to find out how businesses have to comply with the Consumer Rights Act and to raise any queries with our Trading Standards team."

Issues to be outlined during bonfire event

PEOPLE in Tipton can have their say on neighbourhood issues at a drop-in session tomorrow, Friday, at the Jubilee Park bonfire event.

Residents living in the Great Bridge, Princes End and Tipton Green wards can give feedback on how the council and its partner organisations have met 'ward pledges' agreed last year.

The drop-in session will be run from 5pm to 7.30pm in the Community Tent, at the park, off Powis Avenue.

Tidy-up team bag it up at estate

Julie Price, and members of the West Bromwich Housing Team, with their bags after litter picking at Yew Tree estate

SANDWELL'S Big Spring Clean, which has been running for nine years, has proven successful again in 2015.

More than 1900 volunteers have taken part in over 114 events across the borough with close to 1500 bags collected.

The focus this year was to work with community events to help clean up the borough. Around 5.5 ton of fly tipping waste was removed and 83 community events were attended.

ACE Academy in Tipton carried out several litter picks in the community. A painting event took place at The Orchard School in Oldbury and Vodafone volunteered 25 employees to take part in the Big Spring Clean.

Maria Crompton, cabinet member for highways and environment said: "Residents and businesses have shown an amazing sense of pride over the years, generously donating their time to help improve neighbourhoods, parks, canal paths and open spaces. Getting involved with the Big Spring Clean is a great way to help improve your local area and I hope to see every one back again for the 10th year and continue the amazing legacy of keeping Sandwell tidy."

Pay rises hope with council's workers

COUNCIL workers in Sandwell are to be offered pay rises to try to prevent them from moving to other authorities.

Bosses are to bring back a scheme which offers employees the carrot of a salary increase if they have performed particularly well, or if there is a fear they could be enticed by a higher-paid role elsewhere.

The council also fears it could experience difficulties trying to attract new staff without the merit increment salary scheme in place, which was scrapped in 2010.

More than 200 jobs have been axed during the last 18 months at the cash-strapped authority which is currently trying to save £22 million, but chiefs insist the possibility of a pay rise is vital to keeping staff happy.

Cabinet member Councillor Peter Hughes said bringing back the scheme would 'send out a message' that the council was a 'caring employee'.

However, UKIP Councillor Philip Garrett said he understood why the council wanted to support successful workers - but the timing of the move wasn't right given the authority's financial situation.

By Richard Guttridge

Councillor Garrett said: "This is an old scheme which the council has brought back.

"It's a bit of a double-edged sword as I can understand why they're doing it but the timing just isn't right. You want to keep hold of staff if they're performing well but when other staff are being laid off it's not an unreasonable argument to ask if it's the right time to do this – I'd say it's not."

Deputy leader Councillor Steve Eling said: "It does create some issues with retention within some parts of the council, particularly with other councils offering such increments to retain staff or being able to recruit staff by offering this sort of system. There's never a right time."

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Mystery Lanza artist visit leaves landlady shocked

A MYSTERIOUS writer who has been dubbed 'the Black Country Banksy' surprised a pub landlady by arriving in person with his trademark calling cards.

Described as being dressed in a long raincoat, with a long black shawl covering his face, the mystery man appeared at The Wheatsheaf pub, in Rowley Regis.

He had already baffled new landlady, Sara Harvey, after sending her his famous Mario Lanza drawings in the post.

Miss Harvey, who bought the pub in June, said that he had first written to her after seeing her in the Chronicle's sister publication The Express & Star in August – following the discovery of a hidden stained glass window in the pub. She explained: "I couldn't believe it when he decided to send me letters, all with different post marks too.

Drawings

"He said that he had seen the article in the paper about the stained glass window, and that he remembered it as he used to drink in the pub himself many years ago.

"I had heard of Mario Lanza drawings being left in pubs but didn't really know a lot about the ghost-writer himself."

Miss Harvey received two letters, one with a cat food advert stuck to it, before he then appeared in person.

The mystery man has been baffling people for decades by leaving beer mats featuring sketches of the late opera singer Lanza in various pubs, cafes – and even at Dudley Zoo.

"His letters were amazing, but a little odd," said Miss Harvey, aged 37.

"Then the one day I was at the bar and this man with a long raincoat and black shawl came in and noticed that I had framed the cards and letters I had been sent.

"I was talking about how I wondered who it was, and then out the blue he pulled out a beermat and book and said it was him. He was such a lovely gentleman, it was unbelievable to have met him in person – although he still wouldn't reveal himself fully."

It has been estimated that there have been 250,000 secret sketches from the ghost-writer scattered around the Black Country area since the 1960s.

A letter left by the mystery man

A Mario Lanza 'calling card' beer mat

Landlady Sara Harvey with the cards left by the Mario Lanza ghostwriter

Groups may face fees to use key buildings

COMMUNITY groups will be charged to use two town halls in Sandwell on evenings and weekends amid warnings from council bosses that the buildings will not survive without generating funds.

The cash-strapped borough council has announced the changes which will mean that some groups who use towns halls in Wednesbury and West Bromwich, as well as Smethwick Council House, now having to pay for the privilege.

People wanting to hold community events or book functions after 9pm on weekdays or at weekends will now have to stump up almost £50 an hour to hire a main hall.

Concerns have been raised about whether the new measures will lead to groups seeking alternative venues.

But the council's deputy leader and finance boss Steve Eling said it was essential that the buildings make more money than at present, otherwise they are likely to face closure at some point in the future.

West Bromwich Town Hall, in the town's High Street

Wednesbury Town Hall, based in Holyhead Road, Wednesbury

Facilities

The council is currently trying to find savings of £22 million.

Councillor Eling told a council cabinet meeting: "I cannot overstate the threat there is to these facilities from Government cuts.

"We have got to build a case and a strategy to make sure they are secured before the time comes, and it isn't far away, that we get such drastic cuts that we can't afford to keep these facilities open – that isn't going to happen on my watch.

"We can't hide away from the fact Government money is disappearing for these facilities and they are going to have to earn there own keep – but I think they can."

Groups that use the buildings regularly will continue to do so during daytime hours on weekdays 'either for free or preferential rates'. But the cabinet member for finance and resources added: "We will also be setting out arrangements for out of hours and set out an appropriate charge given the additional cost to the council to open out of hours. It does cost additional money to open at weekends.

"Staff are not on normal shifts, we have to pay premium rates for out of hours and we have to cover these costs."

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North Street, which could be accessed by an alley from Paternoster Row

Red Lion Street where the Perry family lived

Tony Perry as a young boy playing with his friends in Red Lion Street

All the world's a stage – or at least the back garden at No3!

MEMORY LANE

By Tony Perry

I WAS about four when we moved house to Red Lion Street. In the 1950s this was longer than now. Where the 1960s Telephone Exchange extension stands there was a block of houses, Nos 1 to 4, let to council tenants.

Another block of four, fronted on to an alley, with a cemetery for St Peter and St Paul's Catholic Church and a pair of semi-detached houses.

The alley led, as Paternoster Row, up the hill, to North Street. Past the cemetery was a final block of four houses before the junction with Wadham's Hill, where the Ring Road is now at a lower level. The houses were built in 1926, as shown by date plaques with the Wolverhampton Corporation Coat of Arms.

Our house was No 2, and a high privet hedge above a low brick wall hid a small front garden with tulips, daffodils and nasturtiums. At the end of the tunnel entry you reached the backs of numbers 2 and 3, where the gardens were at a higher level, reached by steps. My best friend in these years was Geoffrey Leo. Although he lived at Wednesfield, his grandparents, Mr & Mrs Wythe, resided at No 3, and his mother or father would bring him to Red Lion Street regularly.

The family's business was making and selling ice cream. Other friends of ours in the street were John Hendley at No 5, Sally Eades at No 6, replaced by a younger Sally Ormerod, Paul Makin at No 7, Lesley at No 10, Jane at No 12, Patrick Greatrix at No 13 (my next best friend after Geoff), and later on Jimmy and David Silcock at No 14.

John, a lifelong Wolves expert and supporter, was to become in later years a folk singer and successful co-ordinator of folk clubs in the area.

Paul was an actor, before becoming a successful scriptwriter of television comedies. He sadly died of a brain tumour at the age of 54. Patrick ran a popular hardware business in Wolverhampton. In the 1950s playing in the street was second nature, and we had the imagination to make up different games, dramas and shows, mimicking the stars seen on television or in films. The raised back garden of No 3 might be a stage, with Geoff's younger brother John using the inside part of a punch-ball as a microphone, belting out Frank Ifield's "I Remember You".

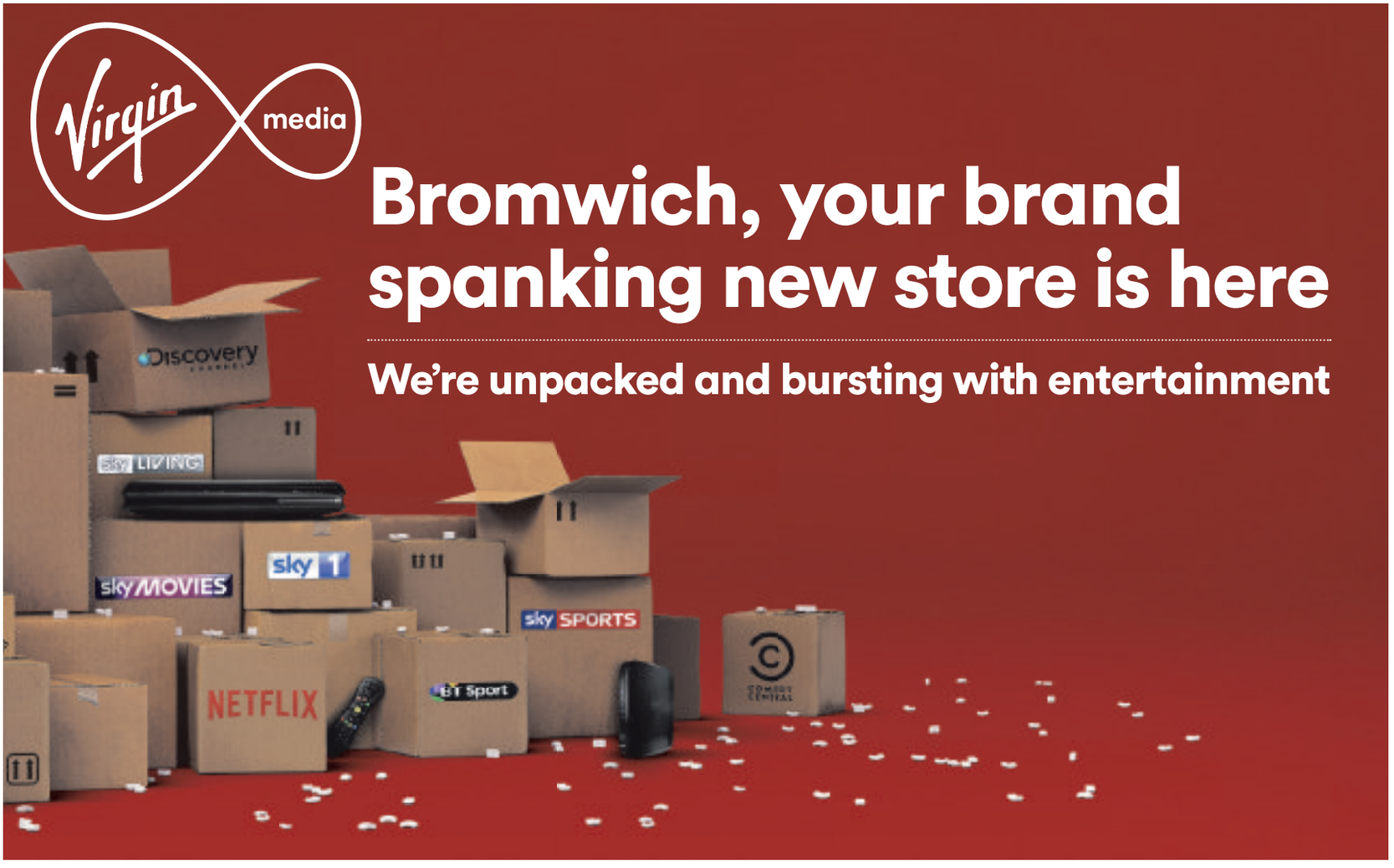
Fever

Play would often take place in the alley, and occasionally stray over the wall into the Catholic Cemetery.

However, any parents hearing us would order us out, with the dire threat that we would "catch the fever" in there. No one ever explained what fever, and how it could be caught. It was another world – a wilderness of overgrown trees and bushes hiding old gravestones – certainly a good place for adventure.

● **From Of the River People by Anthony Perry (Brewin Books, £9.95), available at Ashwoods, Tettenhall Post Office, Archives at Molineux House, Mogul Diamonds, St Peter's Church and other bookshops.**

Red Lion Street in recent times at its corner with Mitre Fold



Fury after takeaway charity tin is stolen

The moment when the charity collection box was stolen

THIS is the moment a shameless thief stole a charity box from a takeaway counter in full view of horrified staff and customers. The thief swooped at Pizza Hut in Newton Road, Great Barr.

CCTV footage shows a man, who is thought to be of Eastern European descent, walking into the takeaway and casually chatting with staff before shoving a Children in Need collection box up his jumper and fleeing the scene.

The theft happened at around 5pm last Tuesday.

Manager Mohammed Piprawala, aged 35, said the incident had left everyone at the takeaway 'stunned and disgusted'. "He came in and stood by the counter and was smiling and talking away," Mr Piprawala said.

"He told me he was waiting for his wife to come so they could decide what they were going to order. We were quite busy at the time. Everyone was stunned.

"It's disgusting really. We've been here since 2008 and no one can remember anything like this happening before."

The thief is described as being of medium build and around 6ft (1.83m) in height. He was wearing a black cap featuring a yellow emblem and a grey hooded top over a black shirt. Mr Piprawala estimates the box contained around £20 when it was taken. West Midlands Police are investigating the theft.

Exhibition honours women of Longbridge

WOMEN who worked at the former MG Rover car factory in Longbridge are the subject of a new exhibition.

The Women of Longbridge exhibition includes interviews and photographic portraits of the former female workers and will show at the new Longbridge town centre until Saturday, November 7.

By John Corser

It has been put together by Birmingham artists Hannah Hull and Stephen Burke. Longbridge, redeveloped by regeneration specialist St Modwen, is fast becoming an established business, leisure and retail community that is on track to create around 10,000 jobs.

Hannah Hull said: "The project documents the changing attitudes toward local women in a male dominated environment and the changing approach to labour throughout the factory's life.

"By celebrating the overlooked stories of the women of Longbridge, we aim to provide strong female role models for the next generation, by showcasing those who played an integral part in the town's past."

Commissioned as part of the Longbridge Public Art Project by public art organisation WERK, Hannah and Stephen are two of just seven long term artists-in-residence commissioned to create work in the Longbridge area, supporting its transition from one of the largest car factories in Europe into a new community.

Stephen Burke, added: "In our search for ex-workers of MG Rover we found it increasingly difficult to speak to the women who worked there, despite knowing of their efforts to keep the economy going during and following the war. After taking more than a year, it was fantastic to find five women who could recount what it was like to work at the former factory site."

A new shop is Aldi people wanted

Shoppers get ready for the doors to open after the opening of the new Aldi store in Wolverhampton Road, Oldbury

HUNDREDS of eager shoppers headed to a new Aldi store in the Black Country – with the influx of visitors causing chaos on the roads.

Scores of customers formed queues at the new Oldbury shop in Wolverhampton Road, which snaked around the side of the store before the opening at 8am last Thursday.

This slowed down traffic around Birchley Island in the morning rush hour. Store manager Mike Carew said he was pleased by the initial response from customers.

Mr Carew, who was previously the manager at Aldi's Netherton store, has high hopes for the supermarket's success. He said: "It's in a good location, with lots of houses nearby and also not far from the motorway. It's all ready to go now and it looks fantastic.

"We had an initial surge of people, then it eased off and started to pick up again between 11am and 4pm."

Teaching assistant Kirsty Dunn, aged 37, visited the store alongside her four-year-old daughter Lily.

"Lily has been very excited ahead of the opening," she said.

"I love Aldi, it's not too expensive and you can get a lot for your money."

Aldi was officially opened by the 1st Brandwell Scout Group, with Mr Carew presenting a golden ticket to the first 100 people in the queue which contained a special prize.

Customers were also treated to free hot sausage and bacon sandwiches, as well as food samples.

Retired nurse Gillian Prior, of Bearwood, said her first impressions of the new store were positive.

Mrs Prior, aged 65, said: "It's lovely. I normally go to the Aldi in Bearwood but this store has much more room to move about."

The shop has created 40 new jobs for the local community.

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STAY WELL THIS WINTER

Keeping those ailments at bay

Winter conditions can be seriously bad for our health, especially for people aged 65 or older and people with long-term conditions.

The cold and damp weather, ice, snow and high winds can all aggravate any existing health problems and make us more vulnerable to illnesses that are more common in winter.

Being cold can raise the risk of increased blood pressure, heart attacks and strokes. But there are lots of things you can do to stay well this winter.

Feeling unwell?

Don't wait – get advice from your nearest pharmacist.

Winter can make existing health problems worse. So if you feel like you're coming down with something, even if it's just a cough or a cold, don't wait until it gets worse. Act quickly. Pharmacists are fully qualified to advise you on the best course of action.

Is your medicine cabinet ready for the winter?

Most common winter ailments, such as a cold, sore throat, cough, sinusitis or middle ear infection, can't be treated with antibiotics. The best thing to do is:

- Rest
- Drink plenty of fluids
- Have at least one hot meal a day to keep your energy levels up
- Talk to your pharmacist for advice on getting any pain relief you need such as paracetamol or ibuprofen.

Take medicines as directed

If you've been prescribed antibiotics or any other medication, make sure you take them as directed.

Make sure you get your flu jab

The flu virus strikes in winter and it can be far more serious than you think. That's why the flu jab is free if you're aged 65 or over. Just speak to your GP.

How to protect your health in the winter

A MAJOR drive to help people stay well this winter has been launched by Public Health England and NHS England.

The NHS Stay Well This Winter campaign is urging people aged 65 or over, or those with long-term health conditions, such as diabetes, stroke, heart disease or respiratory illness, to prepare for winter with advice on how to ward off common illnesses.

The campaign is asking the public to:

- If you start to feel unwell, even if it's just a cough or a cold, then get help from your pharmacist quickly before it gets more serious.
- Make sure you get your flu jab if eligible.
- Keep yourself warm – heat your home to least 18C or (65F) if you can.
- Make sure you get your prescription medicines before pharmacies close on Christmas Eve.
- Always take your prescribed medicines as directed.

Pharmacists are fully qualified to advise you on the best treatment

The campaign is urging people to prepare for winter

The Stay Well This Winter campaign will make sure that people have the information they need to help them look after themselves this winter and also to know the best place to go for urgent advice, whether that's their local pharmacy, NHS Choices, NHS phone number 111 or accident and emergency.

As in previous years the flu vaccine programme is an important part of this campaign.

The adult flu vaccine will be offered free to those in groups at particular risk of infection and complications from flu including those age 65 or over, those age under 65 with long-term health conditions, pregnant women and carers.

Vaccination

This year, for the first time, all our youngest primary school children will be eligible to receive the free nasal spray vaccine, making this the largest school-based vaccination programme in England involving children in 17,000 schools.

The children's flu vaccine programme will seek to help more than three million two to six year olds, as the programme is extended to children in school Years 1 and 2.

Parents are encouraged to complete consent forms in order to allow immunisation teams to administer the nasal spray flu vaccine to their children.

For those children in areas where the vaccination is not offered through schools, they will be offered the vaccination at their local GP or pharmacy.

NHS

Are you 65 or over?

If you feel like you're getting a cough or a cold, get advice from your pharmacist before it gets more serious.

STAY WELL THIS WINTER

nhs.uk/staywell

Sanjay Ganvir, Pharmacist

Alex's legacy, as sister Rachel raises £12,000

A WOMAN has raised more than £12,000 for charity after her brother died of Sudden Adult Death Syndrome.

Now, in her latest round of fundraising, Rachel Dingle is looking to raise enough money to have defibrillators put around Wolverhampton in her brother Alex's favourite places.

Alex Brown, aged 25, died suddenly on April 7 this year after collapsing in the garden of the home he had just moved into with his girlfriend.

She had gone out to play netball and found him collapsed in the garden when she returned.

Since then Rachel, 30, of Burntwood, her family and Alex's friends and girlfriend Rebecca Marshall have been raising money for Cardiac Risk in the Young, also known as CRY.

Various fundraisers have taken place throughout this year including a charity football match and a charity rugby match between Alex's Dragons and Lichfield All-stars.

Rachel Dingle has set up a charity called Cardiac Risk in the Young

Undiagnosed

Rachel said: "Ever since April we have been trying to raise money for Cardiac Risk in the Young. What we have found since we started is that Some 12 to 13 people a week in the UK die of undiagnosed heart conditions.

"Heart screening is free in a number of countries but not on the NHS here in England.

"Sudden Adult Death Syndrome can happen to anyone. People don't think it will happen to them until it does. There's not enough awareness of it.

"I want to place some defibrillators around some of Alex's favourite spots; such as East Park, Tettenhall, Rowley Regis. To leave a legacy, it's what he would have wanted. He worked in mental health, he was so caring and fit and healthy. He died 10 days before my first daughter was born and I know he was really looking forward to being an uncle."

Growing up it was just Alex, Rebecca and their mother, so Alex gave the father of the bride speech at Rebecca's wedding.

A tribute to Alex, from East Park, Wolverhampton, on his JustGiving page said: "Alex certainly was a character, He was the absolute love of my life, he was a fantastic son, a 'big' little brother and was soon to become an uncle. He was the life and soul of every party and could make a room full of strangers his best friends."

Those wishing to donate to Alex's legacy can do so at https://www.justgiving.com/rem ember/193809/Alex-Brown and for details on CRY see http://www.c-r-y.org.uk/

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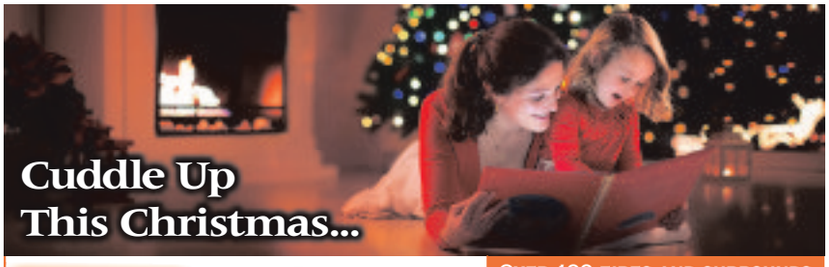

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Qatar flights to take off in March

QATAR Airways is to launch a new service between Birmingham Airport and Doha on March 30 next year.

The city is to be the fourth destination in the UK served by Qatar Airways which will operate eight flights per week including two on Saturdays.

The route will be operated by a Boeing 787 Dreamliner which has a two-cabin configuration of 22 seats in business class and 232 in economy. All seats include individual television screens,.

Qatar Airways Group chief executive Akbar Al Baker said: "We are delighted to announce Birmingham as Qatar Airways' fourth destination in the United Kingdom from March 2016. This additional route strengthens Qatar Airways' commitment to the regions across the UK and will create new commercial and leisure links between the city of Birmingham and the 152 destinations served by the airline."

Church ministry intern, Rachel Saffery, from Old Hill, inside the church which is set to be revamped

£100,000 hope for upgrade at church

AN historic church in the Black Country is putting plans forward for a six figure revamp – which will see it modernised for the community.

The Grade II-listed Holy Trinity Church, in Old Hill, near Cradley Heath, is looking to develop and create new seating, flooring, storage and office space, costing in the region of at least £100,000.

Church leaders are now inviting people along to their Vision Day on Sunday November 15 at 10.45am, which will lay out the Parochial Church Council's plans for the next year and encourage family members to support and contribute towards the project. Churchwarden Rachel Ford, 55, said: "I'm very excited to be in the consultation stages with the proposal and looking forward to updating the local community and to hear their thoughts of our plans at the meeting in a couple of weeks.

"The church building has been part of the life and fabric of both the community of Old Hill and the Holy Trinity church family for almost 140 years."

Church ministry intern Rachel Safferey, 23, from Old Hill, is excited by the prospect of the modernised Holy Trinity.

She said: "It's a lovely church and deserves to be redeveloped and revamped for the community."

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Criticism on rise of migrants in region

MORE than 56,000 migrants have registered to work and claim benefits in the Black Country over the last six years, new figures have revealed.

And the number of foreign nationals granted national insurance numbers soared by 39 per cent in just one year, according to the latest figures from the Office for National Statistics. The national average is 26 per cent.

By Peter Madeley

In 2014 a total of 9,806 migrants registered to work across the region, a rise for 2,747 from the previous year. The figures also show that since 2008 a total of 56,027 migrants have registered for national insurance numbers in the Black Country.

Local councillors say they are concerned about the potential strain on resources prompted by influx of migrants, while an MEP has accused local authorities in the region of being 'pathetic and weak' for failing to stand up to the Government.

Last year Sandwell saw 3,808 new registrations, up 37 per cent from 2013, while almost 20 per cent of all residents in the borough were born outside the UK.

Wolverhampton saw 3,536 registrations, an increase of 34 per cent from the previous year. In Walsall there 1,559 migrants registered, a rise of 42 per cent.

Dudley saw the biggest rise with 903 NI registrations in 2014, an increase of 63 per cent. West Midlands MEP Bill Etheridge said he was stunned by the magnitude of the increase across the Black Country.

"People in the Black Country are struggling to get council houses and GPs appointments. They can't get their kids into the school they want. The whole fabric of our society is under incredible strain yet more and more people are coming to our towns and cities from abroad.

"This uncontrolled flood of immigration has simply got to stop. Unfortunately councils are too pathetic and weak to point out to the Government where the problems are."

Sandwell Council leader Councillor Darren Cooper recently said that services in the borough are too overstretched to take in any more refugees.

Commenting on the latest figures, he said: "We are under extra pressure because of the austerity measures we are facing.

"We want to be able to provide housing and employment for anyone who comes to live in Sandwell, but at the moment that is a real struggle. There is also a concern on the impact on communities. How do we build communities when we have people coming in and out all of the time?"

Man dies after being hit by a car and van

A MAN from Halesowen died after being hit by a car and a van on a busy road. Mohammed Naseem, aged 63, was struck by a Mercedes and a Peugeot van while walking in Hagley Road West, Quinton. Paramedics treated Mr Naseem but he died at the scene last Wednesday night. The accident happened around 8.20pm and the road was closed until the early hours of Thursday.

Sergeant Steve Newbury, from the West Midlands Police Collision Investigation Unit, said: "Our thoughts remain with the family of the man who lost his life and specialist officers continue to liaise with family. We are working hard to understand the circumstances that led to his death and we are appealing to anyone who was in the area at the time of the collision to come forward."

Anyone with information is urged to call police on 101. Alternatively people can leave information anonymously by contacting Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

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Sometimes employers let the college know about vacancies they have for apprentices. The college currently has over 90 vacancies and is looking for enthusiastic young people who want to do an apprenticeship.

To find out more about the vacancies the college has or need help with your CV or interview skills why not call into the employment hub at Dudley College or call 01384 363274 or 363314.

Sophie Thompson, administration apprentice, says: "I have thoroughly enjoyed my apprenticeship at Dudley College and feel I have grown in confidence during my time here.

"My one day a week at college really helps me in the workplace."

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Chance to view £8m leisure complex

PEOPLE can tour the new £8.1 million Wednesbury Leisure Centre before it opens on Monday, November 9. Final touches are being put to the building, which is situated in High Bullen, and is now being made ready for the public.

Last month, Sandwell Council leisure chiefs announced that the sports hall would be named after 19-year-old Joel Richards, from Wednesbury, who died – along with uncle Adrian Evans, 49, and grandfather Charles Patrick Evans, 78 – in the Tunisian terror attack.

Joel was a keen sportsman and football referee, as well as a staunch Saddlers fan. His family were fully supportive of the move.

Weekends

The new complex will have a 25-metre pool, a learner pool, two dance studios and a 100-station fitness suite, as well as a new sports hall.

Sandwell Leisure Trust is holding tours of the centre from 8.30am to 8.30pm during the week and weekend leading until the centre opens its doors.

Deputy leader, Councillor Steve Eling, said: "It's fantastic to see this superb building completed. Wednesbury Leisure Centre will offer a state-of-the-art facility to meet the different needs of local residents."

FOCUS ON WEDNESBURY

Rotarians dig in to help with allotment bench bid

ROTARIANS have forged links with an academy in Wednesbury by helping to get youngsters gardening.

Wodensborough Ormiston Academy has set up its own allotment in its grounds off Hydes Road. And it sought the help of Wednesbury Rotary Club to help students take the weight off their feet after digging out vegetables.

By Andrew Turton

Club members donated £400 for the bench complete with its own inscription to go alongside the allotment.

Teachers Karl Webster and Claire Farmer worked with the club on the project to improve the experience for students at the allotment.

And staff including headteacher Stephan Lanckham joined club president Stuart McEvoy, senior vice president Steve Dale and club member Glenn Edwards at the presentation.

Vegetables

Mr Dale said: "We are delighted to be able to help the academy as this is the first stage of being re-associated with the school.

"They asked if we would work with the at the academy and we are happy to come in and meet the staff and students." Pupils sell fruit and vegetables grown at the allotments.

Rotarians hope to work with the academy on a variety of projects going forward over the coming months.

It already works on a rotary project called the Interact Club with Stuart Bathurst Catholic High School and Wood Green Academy, both in Wednesbury.

Interact gives students aged between 12 and 18 the chance to make a real difference through projects at their school or community and one that promotes international understanding.

Clubs meet at least twice a month and are sponsored by their local Rotary club.

And Mr Dale says the Wednesbury club hope to start a similar organisation with pupils at Wodensborough.

"We hope we can work with Wodensborough more in the future," he aid.

Pupil Carlton Timmins, aged 14, Headteacher Stephan Lanckham and Wednesbury Rotary Club President Stuart McEvoy

Helen hits high note in contest

A MOTHER from the Black Country has made it through to the area finals of a national singing competition.

Helen James, aged 43, from Wednesbury, was chosen for the final nine of the Open Mic UK competition after her performance at the regional finals, in Nottingham, last Sunday.

The mother-of-four, said: "The other contestants were all very good, I was on 18th out of 23 and sung my favourite song 'Proud Mary'.

"I got great feedback off the judges after, and was one of the nine out of 23 who went through."

Former X Factor contestants Lucy Spraggan and Jahmene Douglas have found success from the competition, which sees a £20,000 prize pool up for grabs. The area finals will be held at the Genting Arena on November 14.

Free entry to fireworks

FIREWORK shows will be held on week nights in Sandwell after the council leader says it is too expensive to run on weekends.

It comes after the show at Brunswick Park, in Wednesbury, was moved to Tipton, after three people were injured by a firework at the event last year.

Shows take place tonight at Dartmouth Park, in West Bromwich and Victoria Park, in Smethwick.

Jubilee Park, in Tipton, hosts a show tomorrow.

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Contact Lorretta 07968 656634

GREAT BRIDGE
St Peter's Church Hall,
Whitehall Road, @ 5.30pm and 7:30pm
Contact Jodie 07886 426429

OLDBURY
St James C of E Church,
Shelsley Avenue, @ 7.00pm
Contact Lorraine 07807 355812

OLDBURY
Church on the Rock,
Warley Road, Rood End @ 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Contact Kerrie 07923 129816

TUESDAY
BRADLEY
St Martin's Church,
Slater Street @ 9.30am and 7.00pm
Contact Jodie 07547 771319

OLDBURY
Church on the Rock,
Warley Road, Rood End @ 9.15am and 11.15am
Contact Kerrie 07923 129816

WEST BROMWICH
West Bromwich Community Centre,
Gayton Road, @ 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Contact Jodie 07886 426429

WEST BROMWICH
West Bromwich Leisure Centre,
Moor Street, @ 9.30am, 3.30pm, 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Contact Pippa 07816 900149

WEDNESBURY
Woods Methodist Church
Coronation Road, Woods Estate, @ 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Contact Karen 07547 515345

TIPTON
Tipton Christian Church
Waterloo Street, 5.00pm and 7.00pm
Contact Lisa 07514 607650

OLDBURY
Sainsbury's, Freeth Street,
@ 6.00pm & 7.15pm
Contact Ann 07815 643963

OLDBURY
Warley Baptist Church,
Castle Road East, @ 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Contact Jane 07870 421423

DARLASTON
Darlaston Sports & Social Club Ltd,
16 The Leys, @ 9.30am, 11.30am, 3.30pm, 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Contact Lesley 01902 634883

ROWLEY REGIS
Rowley Regis Disability Centre,
26 Rowley Village, B65 9AT @ 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Contact Kenton 07982 408088

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West Bromwich Community Centre,
Gayton Road, @ 9.30am
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SMETHWICK
Dorothy Parkes Centre,
Church Road, 9.30am 5.30pm and 7.30pm
Contact Melisia 07935 447265

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Bttm Church Hill @ 5.30pm and 7.30pm
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WEDNESBURY
St Luke's Church, Elwell Street,
Mesty Croft, 7.00pm
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BLACKHEATH
Blackheath Central Meth Church,
High Street, @ 10.00am, 12.00pm, 5.00pm and 7.00pm
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Lower Bradley Community Centre
Wallace Road, @ 7.00pm
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The Salvation Army Community Church,
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St Michael's Church,
Tividale Road, B69 2LQ @ 5.00pm and 7.00pm
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St Marks Church
Thimblemill Road @ 3.30pm, 5.30pm and 7.30pm
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SATURDAY
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Folk star Ange

Interview – Page 25

Snakecharmer rock on: Page 25

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6 Dec Michael Buble - Leeds & York St Nicholas Fayre
6 Dec Elvis - Manchester & Skipton Xmas Markets
6 Dec ABBA - Buxton & Chester Xmas Markets
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The Proclaimers

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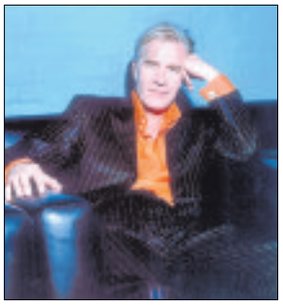
ABC



Monday, 7pm
Symphony Hall, B'ham
ABC returns to Symphony Hall with the Southbank Sinfonia Orchestra and conductor Anne Dudley for a very special show performing the classic debut album The Lexicon of Love.
Visit **www.thsh.co.uk**

Jim Davidson

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Stafford, B'ham, Lichfield
He's like Marmite – you either love him or hate him. Davidson will appear at Stafford Gatehouse, the New Alex, B'ham and Lichfield Garrick over the next week. Adults only.
Visit **theatre websites**

Hairspray

Tues - Nov 14
Grand Theatre, W'ton
This fantastic fun show is based on the 1988 John Waters film Hairspray and the songs include 1960s style dance music and downtown rhythm and blues.
Visit **www.grandtheatre.co.uk**

POP & ROCK

Protomartyr
Fri at 7pm - 10pm, £8
The Rainbow, Digbeth, Birmingham, B12 0LD.
Call 0121 753 1818

Ella Eyre
Wed at 7pm, £16
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

Samantha Fish
Wed at 8.30pm - 10.50pm, £13.50 - £15
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Kadavar
Wed at 7pm, £12.50
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ.
Call 0870 320 7000

Antarctic Monkeys: Arctic Monkeys Tribute
Sat at 7pm - 11pm, £11
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

We Are The Ocean
Mon at 8pm, £12
Asylum, Hockley, Birmingham, B19 3LS. Call 0121 233 1109

Dirty DC: AC/DC Tribute
Sat at 12am, £10
The River Rooms, Stourbridge, DY8 1JN. Call 01384 397177

Jah Wobble's Invaders Of The Heart
Thu at 7.30pm, £16 - £18
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Secret Affair
Sat at 6.30pm - 10pm, £20
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.
Call 0121 643 0428

The Proclaimers
Sun at 7.30pm, £29.50
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

Titus Andronicus
Tue at 8pm, £12
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

Nell Bryden
Tue at 7pm - 11pm, £14.50
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.
Call 0121 643 0428

LA Priest
Wed at 8pm, £9
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

The Coronas
Sat at 6.30pm - 10pm, £10
The Rainbow, Birmingham, B12 0LD.
Call 0121 753 1818

The Bootleg Sixties
Tue at 8pm, £19.50
Artrix, Bromsgrove, B61 1PQ.
Call 01527 577330

Eagles Of Death Metal
Fri at 6pm, £18.50
The Institute, Digbeth, Birmingham, B5 6DY.
Call 0121 643 0428

Julia Holter
Wed at 7pm - 11pm, £13
The Glee Club, Birmingham, B5 4TD. Call 0871 472 0400

Dutch Uncles
Wed at 8pm, £10
Hare & Hounds, Kings Heath, Birmingham, B14 7JZ.
Call 0844 870 0000

Happy Mondays
Fri at 6.30pm, £28.50
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

ABC
Mon at 7pm, £45 - £129
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Top Ten Beatles
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 7.30pm,
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

Hang The Bastard
Thu at 7pm,
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms, WV1 1RQ.
Call 0870 320 7000

Marty Wilde & The Wildcats
Sun at 7.30pm,
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

Lawson
Mon at 7pm - 11pm,
O2 Academy Birmingham, B1 1DB. Call 0121 622 8250

The Stylistics
Tue at 7.30pm, £22
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

Tracer
Sun at 7.30pm, £13
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms WV1 1RQ.
Call 0870 320 7000

Vampires Rock - Ghost Train
Thu at 7.30pm, £23 - £27.90
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

Bee Gees Fever: Bee Gees Tribute
Sat at 7.30pm,
The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster, DY10 2RX.
Call 01562 743745

Ian Prowse & Amsterdam
Fri at 7pm, £12.10
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms WV1 1RQ.
Call 0870 320 7000

Heroes & Villains
Sun at 7.30pm, £18.50
The River Rooms, Stourbridge, DY8 1JN. Call 01384 397177

Miss Understood: Pink Tribute
Fri at 7.30pm, £8
The River Rooms, Stourbridge, DY8 1JN.
Call 01384 397177

Fleetwood Bac: Fleetwood Mac Tribute
Fri at 9pm, £8 - £16
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

Crobot
Sat at 7pm, £10
Wolverhampton Slade Rooms WV1 1RQ.
Call 0870 320 7000

Just Floyd: Pink Floyd Tribute
Sun at 1pm, £8 - £10
The Robin 2, Bilston, WV14 7LJ.
Call 01902 401211

FOLK & ACOUSTIC

Sheelanagig
Thu at 7.30pm - 11pm, £10
Hare & Hounds, Birmingham, B14 7JZ. Call 0844 870 0000

JAZZ & BLUES

Kent DuChaine
Tue at 9pm, Free
The Jam House, Birmingham, B31QU. Call 0121 200 3030

The Swing Commanders
Sat at 8pm,
Artrix, Bromsgrove, B61 1PQ.
Call 01527 577330

Goggie Ifill And Bethan Jones
Sat at 10.30am,
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

CLASSICAL & OTHER MUSIC

Cor Glanaethwy
Sat at 7pm, £17.50 - £35
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA.
Call 0121 780 3333

CBSO 2015-16 Winter Dreams
Wed at 7.30pm, £12.50 - £45
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Stourport-On-Severn Brass Band
Fri at 7.30pm,
The Rose Theatre, Kidderminster, DY10 2RX.
Call 01562 743745

Nathaniel Vallois And David Quigley
Fri at 1.10pm, Free
Barber Institute of Fine Arts, University of Birmingham, B15 2TS.
Call 0121 414 7333

John Wilson And The John Wilson Orchestra
Thu at 7.30pm - 9.30pm, £25 - £46
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Bach Doubled With Tamsin Waley-Cohen And David Le Page
Wed at 2.30pm - 4.30pm, £8.50 - £23.50
Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ.
Call 0121 780 3333

British Carnatic Choir Grand Premiere
Sat at 6pm, £12 - £18
Birmingham Conservatoire, Birmingham City University, B3 3HG. Call 0121 331 5901

Katie Stillman & Simon Lane: Bromsgrove Concerts 2015/16
Fri at 8pm,
Artrix, Bromsgrove, B61 1PQ.
Call 01527 577330

CBSO 2015-16 - A Young Person's Guide To The Orchestra
Sun at 2.30pm, £10
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

THEATRE

Les Ballets Trockadero De Monte Carlo
Tue at 7.30pm - 10pm, Wed at 2pm - 4.30pm, 7.30pm - 10pm, £15 - £34.50
Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

Shakespeare Schools Festival
Mon at 7pm,
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

Rock' N 'Roll To Broadway
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, 7.30pm,
Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, WS11 1DE.
Call 01543 578762

Dr Jekyll And Mr Hyde
Wed at 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm,
Prince Of Wales Centre, Cannock, WS11 1DE.
Call 01543 578762

Les Miserables: A West Bromwich Operatic Society
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, 7.30pm,
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

Brummegem Pals
Sat at 7.30pm,
Palace Theatre, Redditch, B98 8AE.
Call 01527 65203

'Allo 'Allo
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 7.30pm,
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT.
Call 01785 254653

Lord Of The Flies
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2pm, 7.30pm, £8.50 - £35
Birmingham Repertory Theatre, B1 2EP. Call 0121 236 4455

Hairspray: Bilston Operatic Company
Tue at 7.30pm, Wed at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, Thu at 7.30pm, £8.50 - £19
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE. Call 01902 573320

Brave New World
Fri at 7.30pm, Sat at 2.30pm, 7.30pm, £10.50 - £25.50
Wolverhampton Grand Theatre, WV1 1DE.
Call 01902 573320

Jesus Christ Superstar
Fri at 7.30pm - 10pm, Sat at 2pm - 5pm, 7.30pm - 10pm, £20 - £42.50
Birmingham Hippodrome, B5 4TB. Call 0844 338 5000

COMEDY

Kevin Bridges: A Whole Different Story
Fri at 8pm, £28.80
Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham, B1 2AA. Call 0121 780 4141

Nina Conti: In Your Face
Wed at 8pm, £18.50
Birmingham Town Hall, B3 3DQ.
Call 0121 780 3333

Harry Enfield & Paul Whitehouse: Legends!
Sat at 7.30pm, £32.50 - £41.25
Barclaycard Arena, Birmingham, B1 2AA. Call 0121 780 4141

Stephen K Amos: The Laughter Master
Wed at 7.30pm,
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

Jim Davidson: Charlton Nil
Sun at 7.30pm,
£23.50 - £26.40
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT. Call 01785 254653

Tue at 7.30pm,
£23.50 - £26.40
New Alexandra Theatre, Birmingham, B5 4DS.
Call 0844 871 3011

Thu at 7.30pm,
£23.50 - £26.40
Lichfield Garrick, WS13 6HR.
Call 01543 412121

Festival Of The Spoken Nerd: Just For Graphs
Thu at 8pm, £13 - £15
Stafford Gatehouse Theatre, ST16 2LT.
Call 01785 254653

Jimmy Carr: Funny Business
Fri at 8pm, £25
Symphony Hall, Birmingham, B1 2EA. Call 0121 780 3333

Check out full listings in **the ticket** in Friday's Express & Star

Coleridge trail left Ange in Esteesee

By Danny Farragher

WE'RE all guilty of missing the history on our doorstep.

Often other people point out what's interesting or historic about what we pass by every day.

This happened to folk singer Ange Hardy in a spectacular way.

What is remarkable is not just that she was unaware of one of world's most famous romantic poets, Samuel Taylor Coleridge, literally being under her nose but also the way she addressed the shortfall in her knowledge.

Hardy lives in a little village just outside Watchet, Somerset which is about half way along The Coleridge Way, a trail the poet famed for such epics as The Rime of the Ancient Mariner and Kubla Khan walked. She however was blissfully unaware of the significance of the route.

"I think having left school really early and my past of running away and being out of the education circles from about 13 onwards I was just never in the right place or with the right people to learn about Coleridge.

"I didn't even realise Coleridge was a he, I thought it was just the name of the walk. So I really had no idea at all."

The idea then of basing her new album Esteesee – which is how the poet liked to sign himself, on him and his works seem even more bizarre.

"My husband came up with the idea. He started talking about Coleridge and said I should write a song about him."

The idea then formed into an entire album in Hardy's mind, "It was a huge risk," she admits. What lay ahead for the acclaimed singer/songwriter was a massive cramming session.

"I spent about two weeks with my head buried in books from morning to night and listening to readings. Then I just pieced together all the bits that inspired me." Ange Hardy is performing songs from Esteesee at the Kitchen Garden Cafe, King's Heath, Birmingham on Monday November 9. The show starts 8pm and tickets are £9 in advance or £11 on the night. Visit www.kitchengardencafe.co.uk and www.angehardy.com

Ange Hardy will be performing her new album in Birmingham

Fireworks promised

IT promises to be an explosive bonfire night in Bilston tonight as rock band Snakecharmer provide the fireworks.

The supergroup, made up of former members from the likes of Whitesnake, Wishbone Ash and Magnum, perform at the Robin 2 in Mount Pleasant.

The band is made up of six of the UK's most highly-esteemed and experienced rock musicians.

Original Whitesnake guitarist Micky Moody and bandmate, bassist Neil Murray, teamed up with Laurie Wisefield (Wishbone Ash guitarist), Thunder and Magnum drummer Harry James (Thunder, Magnum), Adam Wakeman, who played keyboards and acoustic guitar for Ozzy Osbourne) and Black Sabbath and Heartland vocalist Chris Ousey.

They perform classic twin-guitar based rock. A spokesman for the band said: "With a live set comprising material from their critically-acclaimed Snakecharmer album, coupled with such Whitesnake classics as Ready And Willing, Fool For Your Loving, Take Me With You, Walking In The Shadow Of The Blues and Here I Go Again, Snakecharmer is the genuine article."

"They're the genuine article"

Snakecharmer are currently writing for the follow up to their self-titled debut album. Tonight's concert is the only chance to see the supergroup locally as they also perform in Sheffield, Glasgow, Newcastle, London and Cardiff during the nine-date tour. Call 0844 477 2000.

Reid all about it as twins top bill

TWIN brothers Craig and Charlie Reid will have Birmingham rocking when they perform at the New Alexandra Theatre this weekend.

The duo have tasted huge success around the globe with the likes of Letter From America, Sunshine on Leith and (I'm Gonna Be) 500 Miles, enjoying gold and platinum singles and albums in UK, USA, Canada, Australia and New Zealand in the process. They perform on Sunday (November 8).

The second city also plays host to 80s legends ABC the following evening at the Symphony Hall.

The Institute hosts Twenty One Pilots on Monday and Nell Bryden the next night.

Funnyman Kevin bridges the gap

IT'S comedy central in Birmingham this week as a number of top acts perform.

Scottish funnyman Kevin Bridges sets the ball rolling with his brand new show, A Whole Different Story, at the Barclaycard Arena tomorrow night (Friday).

Also on at the Barclaycard Arena, on Saturday, will be Harry Enfield and Paul Whitehouse.

Elsewhere in the city, Bridges will vie for top billing with Jimmy Carr tomorrow night as he plays the Symphony Hall.

He will be followed by ventriloquist Nina Conti who is at the Town Hall on November 11.

When comedy and ballet mix

THE boys are back in town… in size 12 pointe shoes. Hurtling through the classical ballet repertoire with their inimitable blend of skill, grace and wit, Les Ballet Trockaderos de Monte carol perform at Birmingham Hippodrome next week.

Enjoy show-stopping Swan Lake (Act II), Merce Cunningham-inspired Patterns in Space, Go For Barocco, a satire on Balanchine's choreography, and the delightful Don Quixote on Tuesday and Wednesday (November 10 and 11.

For the Tuesday show there is a chance to attend a post-show question and answer session given by troupe members.

Sandwell Chronicle Thursday, November 5, 2015

The traditional chicken red curry is the county's best

Mini money bags – the duck dim sum

The chicken satay was a favourable way to start the feast

Fine dining – raise a glass to quality Thai food

Chef Suree's a winner as King and Thai retains its number one crown

By Andy Richardson

THAI cook Suree Coates is one of Shropshire's most decorated chefs, having been named the UK Thai Chef of the Year a couple of years back and then bettering that by being crowned the Asian Chef of the Year.

More recently, her qualities have been recognised by The Good Food Guide, where inclusion is hard to come by; in Shropshire, only seven restaurants feature.

The King & Thai in Broseley is listed in that as a Local Gem and deserving of inclusion. Suree is one of the county's best. Arguably her greatest ability is to fashion exciting and exotic flavours that are deep, rich and rewarding.

Her freshly-made sauces and pastes are heavenly. She learned how to make them while growing up in her native Thailand, where she used a pestle and mortar to combine freshly-picked herbs and aromats. She uses the same techniques to this day – and it shows. Suree offers dishes that offer the same flavours that you'd find in downtown Phitsanulok. Her flavours are vibrant and subtle; explosive and entertaining. She's a crackerjack cook who has as good an understanding of Asian seasonings as any chef in the county.

My friend and I have eaten at The King & Thai frequently. For this critic's shilling, it remains the county's number one; with Ludlow's Chang Thai Bar and Shrewsbury's recently-opened Aroi Thai not far behind. Suree moves ahead of her good-but-not-better rivals on most fronts: principally presentation, innovation and flavour.

When we arrived, the helpful and bubbly waitress showed us through to the dining room. It was festooned with Buddhas, colourful photographs and other Thai ephemera. The menu featured the normal Thai classics in addition to numerous specials. Starters include a duck dim sum with plum sauce. Alongside that was a Thai custard, served in a mini pumpkin, with prawns.

My friend opted for the duck dim sum while I ordered chicken satay. Both were delicious. The dim sum – some crunchy-fried and some soft-and-steamed – were light and boldly seasoned. The plum sauce was swirled concentrically across the plate and provided a balanced accompaniment.

The satay was brilliant. My friend and I swapped dim sum for satay in an impromptu game of Thai mix'n'match.

We thought long and hard about the daily specials before ordering the county's best Thai red curry and the county's best Thai green curry. Neither disappointed. Both oozed subtle and delicate flavour. The chicken and vegetables that were contained had been lightly cooked while the presentation was as pretty as a picture.

Rather than request dessert, we asked the chef to choose. She provided a tasting platter, including a playful coconut panna cotta, an indulgent chocolatey, fudgey cube that was dense, rich and satisfying and more. The only underwhelming element was a deep-fried ice cream sandwich.

Suree deserves all credit for pushing the envelope when it comes to Thai cuisine. Unlike most local, neighbourhood chefs, she creates imaginative dishes, daring to combine different ingredients to fashion something new.

Her presentation is delightful, her flavours exemplary and there's not a finer Thai restaurant in the region.

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Catch the Theatre Express and enjoy a super two-day weekend break in the capital. There's a choice of London hotels (hotel supplements may apply) and your ticket is for a Saturday evening performance.

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Take in a top West End show and have some free time in London for shopping and sightseeing.

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CHOICE

Gregory Porter

Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance 2015 (BBC1, 9pm)

Huw Edwards presents coverage of the annual event from the Royal Albert Hall in the presence of the Queen and other members of the royal family. Rod Stewart, Pixie Lott, Andrea Bocelli and Gregory Porter perform alongside the Central Band of the Royal Air Force, the Queen's Colour Squadron, the Band of HM Royal Marines and the Band and Pipes of the Brigade of Gurkhas. Together they pay tribute to the victims of conflict, from the First World War to the present day, in a festival that also includes the traditional two-minute silence as thousands of poppy petals fall from the venue's ceiling.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **10.00** Saturday Kitchen Live. **11.30** Simply Nigella. (R) **12.00** BBC News; Weather. **12.10** Football Focus. **1.00** Bargain Hunt. (R) **2.00** Rugby League. England v New Zealand (Kick-off 2.30pm). **4.30** Final Score. **5.20** BBC News. **5.30** Regional Programme. **5.40** Pointless Celebrities.

6.30 Strictly Come Dancing. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman present another round of dancing action as the twinkle-toed celebrities compete to stay out of the bottom two – and hopefully avoid the same fate as last week's eliminated couple.

8.00 Doctor Who. In the second part of the adventure which started last week, the Zygons have taken over, and the future of Earth is sealed in a box back in Unit's archive. But with the military organisation under the shapeshifting aliens' control and Clara missing, the Doctor and Osgood find themselves fugitives in a city where no one can be trusted. But even if the Time Lord can stop a war, can he also save his friends? Peter Capaldi stars as the time-travelling boffin, with Jenna Coleman as his trusty sidekick and Ingrid Oliver as Unit advisor Osgood, seemingly back from the dead.

8.50 The National Lottery Live. Gaby Roslin is on hand to provide news of the all-important winning numbers.

9.00 Royal British Legion Festival of Remembrance 2015. Huw Edwards presents coverage of the annual event from the Royal Albert Hall in the presence of the Queen and other members of the royal family. Rod Stewart, Pixie Lott, Andrea Bocelli and Gregory Porter perform alongside the Central Band of the Royal Air Force, the Queen's Colour Squadron, the Band of HM Royal Marines and the Band and Pipes of the Brigade of Gurkhas. Together they pay tribute to the victims of conflict, from the First World War to the present day, in a festival that also includes the traditional two-minute silence as thousands of poppy petals fall from the venue's ceiling.

10.40 BBC News; Weather.

11.00 Match of the Day. Gary Lineker presents; National Lottery Update.

12.25 The Apprentice. (R) **1.25** Weather for the Week Ahead. **1.30** BBC News.

BBC2

6.15 Film: The Moon Is Blue. (1953) **7.55 Film:** The Captive Heart. (1946) **9.30** Homes Under the Hammer. (R) **10.30** The Wonder of Animals. **11.00** Animal SOS. (R) **11.30** Animal SOS. (R) **12.00** My Life on a Plate. (R) **12.45** My Life on a Plate. (R) **1.30** Terry and Mason's Great Food Trip. (R) **2.00 Film:** Guess Who's Coming to Dinner. (1967) Comedy drama, starring Spencer Tracy and Katharine Hepburn. **3.45** Escape to the Country. (R) **4.30** Demolition: The Wrecking Crew. (R) **5.30** Flog It! (R)

6.30 The Great Pottery Throw Down. Sara Cox invites 10 home pottery enthusiasts to gather in Stoke-on-Trent, where they take part in a competitive throwing contest to determine which of them should be named Top Potter. Through a series of 18 challenges, taking place over the course of 35 days, the competitors will be judged on their craft skills and creativity by ceramic artist Kate Malone and master potter Keith Brymer Jones. The competition gets under way as the amateurs take part in a four-day assignment, in which they must produce a set of stackable kitchen bowls from lumps of earthenware clay. They also face a Spot Test, in which they must attach handles to 20 mugs within a strict time limit, and a Throw Down, where the judges ask them to make as many egg-cups as they can within 20 minutes. (R)

7.30 Rick Stein: From Venice to Istanbul. The chef continues his journey through Croatia and savours the native oysters of Ston, before crossing the border into Albania, where he is joined by his son Jack. (R)

8.30 Dad's Army. Corporal Jones finds himself cast adrift during an exercise pitting Mainwaring and his home-front heroes against their arch-rival Captain Square. (R)

9.00 QI XL. Host Stephen Fry invites Noel Fielding, Rhod Gilbert and Cariad Lloyd to join regular panellist Alan Davies as he meanders through miscellaneous M-themed matters.

9.45 Film: Song for Marion. (2012) Premiere. Comedy drama, with Terence Stamp, Gemma Arterton and Christopher Eccleston.

11.15 The Many Faces of Richard Wilson. (R)

12.15 Film: Mad City. (1997) **2.05** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knocker Street. **6.10** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.25** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.50** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories: Share a Story. (R) **7.05** Oddbods. (R) **7.10** Sooty. (R) **7.25** Super 4. (R) **7.40** Adventure Time. **8.00** Marvel Avengers Assemble. **8.30** Thunderbirds Are Go. **9.00** Jessie. **9.25** Murder, She Wrote. (R) **10.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **11.25** ITV News; Weather. **11.30** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **12.35** Downton Abbey. (R) **1.40** Judge Rinder. (R) **2.45** Doc Martin. (R) **3.45 Film:** Death Becomes Her. (1992) Black comedy, starring Goldie Hawn. **5.45** Regional Programme ; Weather.

6.00 ITV News; Weather.

6.15 Catchphrase. Stephen Mulhern hosts the game show in which three contestants guess the familiar phrases hidden in animated clues, before one of them plays to win £50,000.

7.00 The Chase: Celebrity Special. Rory Bremner, Laura Tobin, Deborah Meaden and Alan Titchmarsh answer general knowledge questions and work as a team to take on the Chaser and secure a cash prize for charity.

8.00 The X Factor. The remaining acts line up for the second stage of the nerve-racking live shows. Caroline Flack and Olly Murs present as the competitors receive another chance to demonstrate their talent in the hopes of claiming a place in the live final later this year. Simon Cowell, Cheryl Fernandez-Versini, Nick Grimshaw and Rita Ora are on hand to appraise the would-be stars, and tomorrow's show will see yet another act eliminated following a tense sing-off.

10.20 The Jonathan Ross Show. The host chats to Sheridan Smith about her role in the stage revival of musical Funny Girl, and is also joined by Joan Collins, Danny DeVito and Ariana Grande.

11.25 ITV News; Weather.

11.45 Piers Morgan's Life Stories. Raquel Welch, most famous for her portrayal of the bikini-clad cave girl in the 1966 film One Million Years BC, reflects on her life and career. (R)

11.45 Piers Morgan's Life Stories: Andrew Flintoff. (R)

12.40 Jackpot247. **3.00** Show Me the Telly. (R) **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.15 How I Met Your Mother. (R) **6.40** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.05** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.30** The Grid. **8.00** The Morning Line. **9.00** Frasier. (R) **9.30** Frasier. (R) **10.00** Frasier. (R) **10.30** The Big Bang Theory. **11.00** The Big Bang Theory. **11.30** The Big Bang Theory. **11.55** The Simpsons. (R) **12.30** The Simpsons. (R) **1.00** The Simpsons. (R) **1.30** Channel 4 Racing. Live coverage from Doncaster, Aintree and Wincanton. **4.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.25** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.00** Come Dine with Me. (R) **5.25** Come Dine with Me. (R)

6.00 Come Dine with Me. Admin worker Jessica Carroll hosts the final party in Lincolnshire. Despite a lack of culinary knowledge, she hopes her Chinese meal and unusual pet will impress the guests. (R)

6.30 Channel 4 News.

7.00 The Restoration Man. George Clarke meets Mark Horton, who has bought the derelict shell of an 18th-century folly called Bath Lodge in Ormskirk, near Liverpool, with the dream of converting it himself. (R)

8.00 Grand Designs. Kevin McCloud meets Rob Hodgson and Kay Ralph, who plan to build a glass-fronted house on a crumbling clifftop in Gwynedd, inspired by the villas of California. (R)

9.00 Prison Night. British inmates are given a chance to determine just how authentic some of the world's most popular big-screen depictions of life behind bars really are. A countdown of celebrated prison dramas, thrillers and comedies, as voted for by convicts serving time at Her Majesty's pleasure, reveal which films most accurately convey the realities of confinement. Plus, lifers, great escapees, Brits banged up abroad and prison bosses also provide their perspective on the plausibility of some of the cell-based hijinks devoured by cinema-goers over the ages.

10.35 TFI Friday. Elton John, Julianne Moore, Stanley Tucci, the Maccabees and the Vamps join host Chris Evans for music and chat, with stunts and skits. (R)

11.40 Film: Lockout. (2012) Sci-fi thriller, starring Guy Pearce.

1.25 Fargo. (R) **2.20** Alan Carr: Chatty Man. (R) **3.15** Hollyoaks. (R) **5.20** Hugh's 3 Good Things: Best Bites. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake! **8.55** Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles. **9.30** The Saturday Show. **11.25** Ice Road Truckers. (R) **12.25** Ice Road Truckers. (R) **1.25 Film:** All I Want For Christmas. (2013) Festive fantasy, starring Melissa Sagemiller. **3.05 Film:** A Nanny for Christmas. (2010) Romantic comedy, starring Emmanuelle Vaugier and Richard Ruccolo. **4.50 Film:** Mistletoe Over Manhattan. (2011) Christmas fantasy, starring Tricia Helfer and Greg Bryk.

6.35 5 News Weekend.

6.40 Film: Operation Crossbow. (1965) Three Allied engineers parachute into occupied Holland on a mission to infiltrate and destroy a German missile base. The trio team up with the local resistance, but two of the men are unaware the third is a Nazi agent. Second World War adventure, starring George Peppard, Sophia Loren, Trevor Howard, Tom Courtenay and John Mills.

9.00 Football League Tonight. Kelly Cates and George Riley present extended highlights of the weekend's top matches, as well as all the goals from the Championship, including Huddersfield Town v Leeds United, Nottingham Forest v Derby County, and Hull City v Middlesbrough. Plus, a round-up of the main talking points, and interviews with a selection of players and managers.

10.15 Greatest Comedy Movies – Ever! Special programme celebrating the greatest comedy films ever made, featuring recollections and revelations from stars on both sides of the camera.

11.50 Film: See No Evil, Hear No Evil. (1989) A blind man and his deaf friend go on the run to escape a trumped-up murder charge and crooks tracking down a top-secret microchip. Comedy, starring Richard Pryor and Gene Wilder.

1.35 The Gadget Show. Jon Bentley investigates mobile phone networks, while Jason Bradbury and Amy Williams look into cutting-edge technology for hairdressers and models. (R) **2.25** SuperCasino. Viewers get the chance to take part in live interactive gaming, with a mix of roulette-wheel spins and lively chat from the presenting team. **4.00** Gift of Life. A former Merchant Navy sailor with a severe heart condition awaits a transplant. Last in the series. **4.50** Make It Big. (R) **5.45** Angels of Jarm. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three

7.00 Great Movie Mistakes V: Revenge of the Fifth **7.15** Don't Tell the Bride **8.15** Top Gear **9.15** Russell Howard's Good News **10.15 Film:** Halloween: Resurrection (2002) **11.45** Family Guy **1.55** Together **2.25** Rent a Cop **2.55** Asian Provocateur **3.25** The Fear **3.55** Close

BBC Four

7.00 Tutankhamun: The Truth Uncovered **8.00** Lost Kingdoms of Central America **9.00** Arne Dahl: Afterquake – Part One **10.00** Arne Dahl: Afterquake – Part Two **11.00** Ultimate Covers at the BBC **12.00** Better Than The Original: The Joy of the Cover Version **1.00** Sings Dylan 2 **2.00** Top of the Pops: 1980 **2.35** Lost Kingdoms of Central America **3.35** Close

ITV2

12.10 The Xtra Factor **1.10** Tricked **2.10** Catchphrase **2.50** You've Been Framed! **3.20 Film:** The Little Vampire (2000) **5.15 Film:** Scooby-Doo 2: Monsters Unleashed (2004) **7.10 Film:** Bill & Ted's Excellent Adventure (1989) **9.00 Film:** The Fast and the Furious (2001) **11.10** Celebrity Juice **11.55** The Almost Impossible Gameshow **12.55** Release the Hounds **1.50** Tricked **2.40** Teleshopping **5.40** ITV2 Nightscreen

ITV3

2.00 Rosemary & Thyme **3.00** Agatha Christie's Marple **4.55 Film:** Columbo: Negative Reaction (1974) **7.00** Doc Martin **8.00** Midsomer Murders **10.00** Lewis **12.00** Inspector Morse **2.05** ITV3 Nightscreen **2.30** Teleshopping

ITV4

11.35 The Professionals **1.40** Pawn Stars **3.25** Storage Wars **4.20** Storage Wars: New York **6.20 Film:** Red River (1948) **9.00 Film:** Tremors (1989) **11.00 Film:** Raw Deal (1986) **1.10** The Big Fish Off **2.10** Minder **3.00** Teleshopping

E4

11.00 The Goldbergs **12.00 Film:** Aliens in the Attic (2009) **1.40** Rude(ish) Tube Shorts **2.00** Made in Chelsea **3.00 Film:** See Spot Run (2001) **5.00** The Big Bang Theory **8.00 Film:** Transformers: Revenge of the Fallen (2009) **11.00** Gogglebox **12.35** The Inbetweeners **1.40** The IT Crowd **2.45** How I Met Your Mother **3.50** 2 Broke Girls **4.15** Brooklyn Nine-Nine **4.35** Revenge

Film4

1.00 Five Children and It (2004) **2.45** Magic in the Water (1995) **4.45** Tooth Fairy (2010) **6.50** Mission: Impossible (1996) **9.00** Knight and Day (2010) **11.10** Sorority Row (2009) **1.10** The Social Network (2010) **3.35** Close

CHOICE

Michelle Dockery

Downton Abbey (ITV, 9pm)
Bertie's circumstances change suddenly, leaving Edith uncertain whether to risk telling him the truth or keep her past a secret at all costs. Mary wonders if she can ever make peace with her sister as hostilities escalate, Spratt shows some hidden talents and Molesley's first day as a teacher does not go according to plan. Mrs Patmore's bed and breakfast attracts unwanted attention, leaving her in need of the Crawleys' help. The last episode of the final series, although the Crawleys will return one last time for a Christmas special. Last in the series.

BBC1

6.00 Breakfast. **7.30** Match of the Day. (R) **9.00** The Andrew Marr Show. **10.25** Remembrance Sunday: The Cenotaph. **12.20** Regional Programme. **1.30** BBC News; Weather. **1.45** Lifeline. **1.55** FA Cup Final Score. An FA Cup edition of the football results and report show. **3.00** Points of View. **3.15** The People Remember. **4.15** Songs of Praise. **4.50** The Hunt. (R) **5.50** BBC News.
6.10 Regional Programme.
6.15 Countryfile. Reports on rural issues in Cambridgeshire. Matt Baker reveals how students have long had an impact on rural affairs, Joe Crowley finds out about the restoration of the Great Fen and the recovery of a crashed spitfire, Ellie Harrison uncovers stories about the Peak District from the Second World War, and Adam Henson meets JB Gill of pop group JLS, who is running a turkey farm. Including Weather For The Week Ahead.
7.15 Strictly Come Dancing: The Results. Tess Daly and Claudia Winkleman present the results of last night's show. Seal provides the music and the professionals perform a Remembrance Day routine.
8.00 Antiques Roadshow. Fiona Bruce presents the second programme this year from RAF Coningsby in Lincolnshire, and discovers the story of a length of tree that ended up inside a Lancaster bomber. Treasures brought in to be valued include a harp that survived the French Revolution, a curious wooden item with an unexpected purpose, a diamond brooch found hidden inside a barometer and a pair of Second World War propaganda posters printed on hessian sacking.
9.00 The Hunt. A look at how predators living in the Arctic have to constantly adapt their hunting strategies as the environment around them radically changes.
10.00 BBC News.
10.20 Regional Programme.
10.30 Match of the Day 2. Mark Chapman reviews the day's Premier League action, which featured Arsenal v Tottenham Hotspur, Aston Villa v Manchester City and Liverpool v Crystal Palace.
11.45 Citizen Khan. (R)
12.15 Weather for the Week Ahead.
12.20 BBC News.

BBC2

7.00 The Big Allotment Challenge. (R) **8.00** Countryfile's Ramble for Children In Need. (R) **9.15** Saturday Kitchen Best Bites. **10.45** My Life on a Plate. (R) **11.30** My Life on a Plate. (R) **12.15** MOTD2 Extra. **1.00** Bargain Hunt. (R) **3.00** FA Cup Final Score. The FA Cup edition of the football results and report show continues. **4.15** Terry and Mason's Great Food Trip. (R) **4.45** Flog It! (R) **5.30** Remembrance Sunday: The Cenotaph.
6.30 Match of the Day: FA Cup Highlights. Action from the weekend's first-round matches, as the 20 non-league teams to progress through the qualifying rounds competed alongside the 48 League One and League Two clubs. Standout ties in this opening round included Notts County's trip to Salford City – part-owned by former Manchester United stars Gary and Phil Neville, Paul Scholes, Ryan Giggs and Nicky Butt. Elsewhere, part-timers Didcot Town hosted Exeter City, and 2013 winners Wigan Athletic took the short trip to face League One rivals Bury.
8.00 Earth's Wildest Waters: The Big Fish. The semi-final is held in Canada, where the anglers go searching for Pacific salmon, bull trout and white sturgeon and discover how fish migrations drive the country's ecosystem.
9.00 Film: Looper. (2012) In the future, a crime syndicate uses time travel to dispose of people without trace, sending them back 30 years to be killed by hitmen. One of the assassins employed by the Mob finds his latest target is himself as an older man, and both versions go on the run as they try to change the course of history. Sci-fi thriller, with Joseph Gordon-Levitt.
10.50 Family Guy. Peter befriends a man named Mahmoud while recovering from a sky-diving accident in hospital, but Quagmire and Joe are immediately suspicious of this charismatic newcomer.
11.10 Family Guy. Mayor West becomes the prime suspect when a murder is committed at his mansion – but once his trial begins, one of the jurors begins to doubt his guilt.
11.30 Top Coppers.
12.00 Film: Return from the River Kwai. (1988) **1.35** Sign Zone: Countryfile's Ramble for Children In Need. (R) **2.50** Holby City. (R) **3.50** This Is BBC Two.

ITV

6.00 CITV: Bottom Knocker Street. **6.10** Bottom Knocker Street. (R) **6.25** Bottom Knocker Street. **6.35** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **6.50** Dino Dan: Trek's Adventures. (R) **7.00** Signed Stories; Share a Story. **7.05** Oddbods. (R) **7.10** Sooty. (R) **7.25** Super 4. (R) **7.40** Matt Hatter Chronicles. **8.00** Marvel Avengers Assemble. (R) **8.30** Fish Hooks. **9.00** Horrible Science. **9.25** FIA Formula E Championship. **10.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show USA. (R) **11.15** ITV News; Weather. **11.20** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **12.25** The Jeremy Kyle Show. (R) **1.30** The Chase. (R) **2.25** The X Factor. (R) **4.40 Film:** Nanny McPhee and the Big Bang. (2010) Fantasy comedy, starring Emma Thompson.
6.40 Regional Programme; Weather.
6.50 ITV News; Weather.
7.00 Jekyll and Hyde. Robert uses some of his grandfather's potions to cure himself of his alter ego, whom he is desperate to keep secret from Lily, and also discovers his grandmother may still be alive.
8.00 The X Factor. Caroline Flack and Olly Murs present the results of last night's vote, before the lowest scoring acts compete in a sing-off to determine which of them will leave the competition.
9.00 Downton Abbey. Bertie's circumstances change suddenly, leaving Edith uncertain whether to risk telling him the truth or keep her past a secret at all costs. Mary wonders if she can ever make peace with her sister as hostilities escalate, Spratt shows some hidden talents and Molesley's first day as a teacher does not go according to plan. Mrs Patmore's bed and breakfast attracts unwanted attention, leaving her in need of the Crawleys' help. The last episode of the final series, although the Crawleys will return one last time for a Christmas special. Last in the series.
10.40 ITV News; Weather.
10.50 Off Their Rockers. A foul-mouthed nun runs amok, Seb gets advice on attending a naturist wedding and Dave gives a member of the public his lucky pants. (R)
11.20 Premiership Rugby Union. Action from the fourth round of fixtures, which included Northampton Saints v Saracens.
12.15 Jackpot247. **3.00** Motorsport UK. **3.50** ITV Nightscreen.

CHANNEL 4

6.20 Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **6.45** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.10** Everybody Loves Raymond. (R) **7.35** Frasier. (R) **8.00** Frasier. (R) **8.30** The Simpsons. (R) **9.00** The Simpsons. (R) **9.30** Sunday Brunch. **12.30** The Simpsons. (R) **12.55** The Simpsons. (R) **1.25** The Simpsons. (R) **1.55** The Simpsons. (R) **2.25** The Simpsons. (R) **2.55** The Simpsons. (R) **3.25** The Simpsons. (R) **3.50** The Simpsons. (R) **4.20** The Simpsons. **4.50 Film:** Simpsons Movie. (2007) Animated comedy, with the voice of Dan Castellaneta.
6.30 Channel 4 News.
7.00 Restoring Britain's Landmarks. Alastair Dick-Cleland visits the engine house at Danescombe, where a refurbishment is underway, while John Evetts searches for an antique telescope to complete the tower at Belmont House in Lyme Regis. Plus, Anna Keay explores the story behind the Victorian star gazer Dr Bangay. (R)
8.00 Great Canal Journeys. Timothy West and Prunella Scales go to Ireland and travel along the Shannon Erne Waterway, a canal linking the North to the South. Along the way, they try some traditional dancing and folk singing, visit historic sites including Crom Castle and Bloody Pass, and meet a genealogist with a fascinating story to tell. Last in the series.
9.00 Homeland. The Hacktivists plans gather steam, as Quinn covers for Carrie as Dar and Allison assess the damage. Thriller following a team of CIA agents battling terrorists and problems in their personal lives. Claire Danes stars.
10.00 Gogglebox. Capturing the households' instant reactions to what they are watching on TV from the comfort of their own sofas. Narrated by Caroline Aherne. (R)
11.05 Film: The American. (2010) A hitman lies low in an Italian village after a brush with death, and tempts fate by pursuing a relationship with a local woman. Thriller, with George Clooney and Violante Placido.
1.00 Grand Designs Australia. **1.55** Obsessive Compulsive Cleaners. (R) **2.50** Come Dine with Me. (R) **4.35** Location, Location, Location. (R) **5.30** 1001 Things You Should Know. (R)

CHANNEL 5

6.00 Milkshake!: Peppa Pig. **6.05** Bananas in Pyjamas. (R) **6.20** Angelina Ballerina. (R) **6.30** Bob the Builder. (R) **6.45** Tickety Toc. (R) **6.55** Zack and Quack. (R) **7.05** Roobarb and Custard Too. (R) **7.15** Make Way for Noddy. (R) **7.30** Paw Patrol. (R) **7.50** Little Princess. (R) **8.00** Pip Ahoy! (R) **8.15** Blaze and the Monster Machines. **8.45** Ben and Holly's Little Kingdom. (R) **9.00** Wanda and the Alien. (R) **9.10** Toby's Travelling Circus. (R) **9.25** Jelly Jamm. (R) **9.40** Football League Tonight. (R) **11.00** 5 News Special: Remembrance Sunday. **11.05** The Secret Life of Pets. (R) **11.35 Film:** The Town Christmas Forgot. (2010) **1.20 Film:** The Christmas Bunny. (2010) Family drama, starring Sophie Bolen. **3.15 Film:** Defending Santa. (2013) Premiere. Festive drama, starring Dean Cain. **5.05** 5 News Weekend. **5.10 Film:** Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves. (1991) Action adventure, starring Kevin Costner.
8.05 Impractical Jokers US. New series. The guys are challenged to sell anti-ageing products by rubbing as much lotion as possible onto a stranger's body. They also conduct an unusual survey and must try to steal things from people's shopping carts. Finally, one of the group has to sing an improvised song at a baseball match, but is only given the title when he steps onto the field.
8.35 Impractical Jokers US. The guys act as oddball apartment dwellers looking for room-mates, and jump the queue for Broadway show tickets.
9.00 Film: The Expendables 2. (2012) Mercenary leader Barney Ross is recruited by the CIA to recover a top-secret package, only to come to blows with a rival band of hired guns. Barney swears revenge when the other faction kill his protege, and leads his men on a mission to stop their enemies taking over a former Soviet nuclear facility. Action thriller sequel, starring Sylvester Stallone and Jean-Claude Van Damme.
10.55 Film: Highlander. (1986) Immortal warriors must fight each other in duels to the death through the centuries, until only one survives. Fantasy action adventure, with Christopher Lambert and Sean Connery.
1.10 SuperCasino. **3.10** Eamonn & Ruth: How the Other Half Lives. (R) **4.00** House Doctor. (R) **4.25** Make It Big. (R)

DIGITAL

BBC Three
7.00 Top Gear **8.00** Don't Tell the Bride **9.00 Film:** Blades of Glory (2007) **10.30** Russell Howard's Good News **11.30** Family Guy **12.15** American Dad! **12.40** Family Guy **1.00** Rent a Cop **1.30** Together **2.00** Is This Rape? Sex on Trial **3.00** Asian Provocateur **3.30** The Fear **4.00** Close
BBC Four
7.00 Killer Whales: Beneath the Surface – Natural World **8.00** Dames of Classic Drama at the BBC **9.00** In Conversation **10.00** The Sky at Night **10.30** Horizon: Asteroids – The Good, the Bad and the Ugly **11.30** Horizon: Solar Storms – The Threat to Planet Earth **12.30** Sings Dylan **1.10** James May at the Edge of Space **1.40** Madness in the Desert: Paris to Dakar Rally **2.40** In Conversation **3.40** Close
ITV2
2.00 The Almost Impossible Gameshow **3.00 Film:** Nim's Island (2008) **4.55 Film:** Space Jam (1996) **6.40 Film:** Kindergarten Cop (1990) **9.00** The Xtra Factor **10.00 Film:** 2 Fast 2 Furious (2003) **12.10** Viral Tap **12.55** Reality Bites **1.40** Totally Bonkers Guinness World Records **2.05** Ariana Grande: The Hot Desk **2.15** Teleshopping
ITV3
2.30 Jane Eyre **4.45** Midsomer Murders **6.50** Sunday Night at the Palladium **7.55** Wycliffe **9.00** Joanna Lumley: The Search for Noah's Ark **10.30** Birds of a Feather **11.00 Film:** Out of Sight (1998) **1.25** Agatha Christie's Marple **3.00** Doctor at Large **3.25** ITV3 Nightscreen **3.40** Emmerdale
ITV4
12.25 Pawn Stars **2.15** The Car Chasers **3.20 Film:** Red River (1948) **6.00** British Touring Car Championship **8.00** Premiership Rugby Union **9.00 Film:** Eraser (1996) **11.20 Film:** The Wicker Man (1973) **1.15** Whisker Wars **2.10** I Want That Car **3.00** Teleshopping
E4
2.30 Couples Come Dine with Me **4.30** The Big Bang Theory **8.00 Film:** Night at the Museum: Battle of the Smithsonian (2009) **10.05** The Inbetweeners **11.15** The IT Crowd **12.15** First Dates **1.15** Drifters **1.50** Chewing Gum **2.25** Tattoos After Dark **3.15** Hollyoaks
Film4
1.00 Catch That Kid (2004) **2.45** Von Ryan's Express (1965) **5.00** Casper (1995) **7.00** St Trinian's (2007) **9.00** Pitch Perfect (2012) **11.10** Stand Up Guys (2012) **1.00** Vanilla Sky (2001) **3.45** Close

CANNOCK CHASE
Landlords Forum
Thursday 12th November 2015 6.30pm
CANNOCK CHASE COUNCIL, CIVIC CENTRE, BEECROFT ROAD, CANNOCK
If you are a Landlord with property to rent particularly in the Cannock Chase Area, why not attend the next meeting of the Landlords Forum?

Guest Speakers for the evening are:
Wayne Barber
(Local Partnership Manager) HOME OFFICE
'Right to Rent' Checks from 01/02/16
Neil Griffiths
(Fire Safety Officer) Staffordshire Fire and Rescue 'New' Smoke & Carbon Monoxide Regulations from 01/10/15
Housing Options / Private Sector Team
'Update' on Retaliatory evictions from 01/10/15 under the Deregulation Act 2015
Representation from:
Rob Wolfe
Local Taxation and Benefits Manager
Mandy Bygrave
National Landlords Association

For more information Contact
Julie Cope/Dee Kalirai
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FILM CHOICES

MONDAY
The Hangover, ITV, 9pm
Three men on a stag weekend in Las Vegas wake up after a night of heavy drinking and find they have not only misplaced the groom, but somehow gained a tiger and a baby. Unable to remember the details of the night before, they set about piecing the clues together in the hope of finding their missing friend. Comedy, starring Bradley Cooper, Ed Helms and Zach Galifianakis. (2009)

TUESDAY
The Mission, BBC1, 11.55pm
The missionary work of Jesuit priests in 18th-century Brazil is threatened by the activities of unscrupulous colonial merchants and rival factions within the Church, leading to a series of tense confrontations which not only endanger their lives but also their faith. Historical drama, starring Robert De Niro, Jeremy Irons, Cherie Lunghi and Ray McAnally. (1986)

The Insider, Wednesday, Channel 4, 12.30am

WEDNESDAY
The Insider, Channel 4, 12.30am
A scientist is fired from his job with a tobacco company, and agrees to expose his former employers' secrets to a journalist – including the allegation that the company had deliberately increased the addictive quality of cigarettes. Michael Mann's fact-based drama, starring Al Pacino and Russell Crowe. (1999)

THURSDAY
Robin Hood: Prince of Thieves, Channel 5, 10pm
An English nobleman returns home from the crusades to find his father has been murdered and the local people are repressed by the tyrannical rule of the Sheriff of Nottingham. Branded an outlaw, he recruits a group of bandits to fight for justice and protect the downtrodden. Action adventure, starring Kevin Costner and Alan Rickman. (1991)

FRIDAY
Cross of Iron, BBC2, 12.45am
A German sergeant on the Russian front in 1943 is sickened by an officer who risks men's lives for his own glory. Sam Peckinpah's Second World War drama, starring James Coburn, Maximilian Schell, James Mason and David Warner. (1977)

The stars shine brightly in aid of a good cause

How to transform yourself from smooth-talking professional to dribbling idiot in one easy move – host a live TV show.

Those watching at home may think standing in front of a camera and reading an autocue is easy, but for presenters, it can be a living nightmare - especially if something goes wrong and they're left to fill in 'dead air'.

Arguably the biggest and most difficult live TV event of the year is Children in Need, thanks in no small part to the fact it lasts for such a long time. What's more, this year it's being broadcast on Friday 13th – surely a recipe for disaster if ever there was one?

Well, maybe not. After all, it's in the safe hands of Terry Wogan, who seems to thrive on such occasions. He will be joined for the first part of the evening by Tess Daly, who is no stranger to live TV, having co-hosted Strictly Come Dancing with, initially, Bruce Forsyth and latterly with Claudia Winkleman, for the past 11 years. But even she could learn a thing or two from Sir Terry who makes the whole process seem completely effortless – perhaps it's because he's so affable and always does his best to make those appearing in the studio at their ease.

"I'm not a confrontational interviewer," explains Wogan. "It would be easy to be abrasive, but nobody would want to come on the show. Sometimes an interview I think didn't go well was actually very good, and vice versa. You're not always the best judge yourself."

Despite retiring from his radio show, Terry is as busy as ever, but he claims he'll always have time for this fundraiser.

"It is always a privilege and pleasure, the highest point of my year, to present BBC Children in Need," he says. "This year we are hoping the great British public will give us even more. We've certainly got a fantastic show line-up this year. I know I say that every year but this year really is special."

Although the BBC's first Children's Appeal arrived in 1927, the first telethon version didn't appear on our screens until in 1980, and the aim each year is to beat the previous total. Seeing as a record £32, 620, 469 was raised on the night in 2014, the fundraisers have a tough task ahead of them, but hopefully the public will be inspired to dig deep by the serious stories they hear as well as the entertainment on offer.

Among the highlights on offer during the first, two-and-a-half-hour stint are performances by Ellie Goulding, the Children's Choir, Rod Stewart and Jess Glynne, who performs the evening's official song, Take Me Home.

Also popping up is a Strictly special, which sees Bruce Forsyth return to the ballroom to host an edition featuring the stars of Call the Midwife – has their colleague Helen George, who is currently taking part in the dance challenge, been giving them tips?

Then, in the second half after the news, Rochelle Humes and Nick Grimshaw take over from Daly and help Wogan keep the ball rolling into the wee small hours.

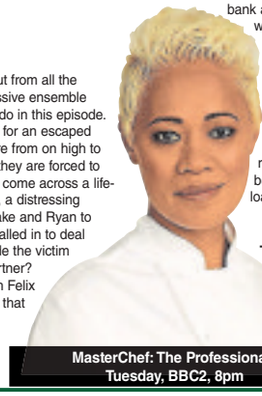
Tess Daly presents Children in Need 2015, Friday, BBC1, 7.30pm

BEST OF THE REST

MONDAY
The Shopper's Guide to Saving Money
Channel 4, 8.30pm
We work hard all week, perhaps hoping to let our hair down by indulging in some retail therapy once we clock off. With that in mind, it would be nice to think that when we do splash out, we're getting value for money. But is that the case? This new, four-part programme introduced by Dave Fishwick and Kate Quilton hopes to answer that question by investigating whether we really do get our money's worth for goods and services. They hear from big corporations and industry insiders about how much certain products cost to make before offering tips on securing the best deals for such items as jeans, airline tickets, diamonds, perfume, gas bills and even funerals. But they begin by looking at the cost of taking care of man's best friend before delving into the world of printer ink.

TUESDAY
MasterChef: The Professionals
BBC2, 8pm
New series. Six aspiring chefs compete in the cookery contest, beginning with a test of their basic skills. The first contestants must make the French dessert, a Floating Island, while the remaining three have to cook a blue steak with a green peppercorn sauce in 15 minutes. Finally, the six chefs cook their own signature dish for judges Monica Galetti, Gregg Wallace and Marcus Wareing. It is their last chance to show off their culinary talent before three of them are sent home, and three become quarter finalists.

WEDNESDAY
Cuffs
BBC1, 8pm
What makes this series stand out from all the other police dramas is its impressive ensemble cast – and they've got plenty to do in this episode. Donna and Lino are on the hunt for an escaped prisoner, but despite the pressure from on high to find him as quickly as possible, they are forced to suspend their search when they come across a life-threatening situation. Elsewhere, a distressing domestic violence case leads Jake and Ryan to come to blows, but when Jo is called in to deal with the fallout, can she persuade the victim to testify against her abusive partner? Meanwhile, Carl joins forces with Felix to look into a spate of muggings that have all targeted private school boys, and in the process gets a new insight into his reclusive boss.



MasterChef: The Professionals, Tuesday, BBC2, 8pm

Peep Show
Channel 4, 10pm
New series. The last series of the comedy saw Mark and Jeremy get mildly electrocuted in a field, abandoned by Dobby despite their declarations of love. The final series begins with Mark working in a bank and having a new flatmate, while Jeremy still refuses to apologise for falling in love with Dobby, at least until the time is right. However, the pair have to put their differences aside to help Super Hans maintain his newly clean and healthy lifestyle, and Jeremy's resolve is tested when he becomes in urgent need of a loan.

THURSDAY
Tom Jones & Rob Brydon: One Big Night
BBC1, 8pm
Rob Brydon hosts this spectacular night of comedy and music, which is in aid of two very good causes – it's not only raising money for Children in Need, it's also paying tribute to one of Britain's best-loved music legends, Tom Jones. As you would expect, Jones will be performing with his band, but he'll also be joined by some very special guests, including James Morrison, Laura Mvula, Dame Evelyn Glennie, The Shires and Chickenshed. And while the music was recorded live the SSE Arena, Wembley, on October 8, there will also be some pre-recorded comedy sketches, looking back at some of the key moments from Jones's long and illustrious career, including a special mini-episode of Brydon and Steve Coogan's series The Trip.

FRIDAY
Live International Football
ITV, 7.30pm
Spain v England (Kick-off 7.45pm). Coverage of the friendly match from Estadio Jose Rico Perez in Alicante, featuring two sides that qualified convincingly for Euro 2016. Reigning European champions Spain won nine and lost just one of their group matches, while Roy Hodgson's men went one better, boasting a 100 per cent record. The sides last met in a friendly in November 2011, when Frank Lampard's goal gave England a 1-0 win at Wembley. Mark Pougatch presents.

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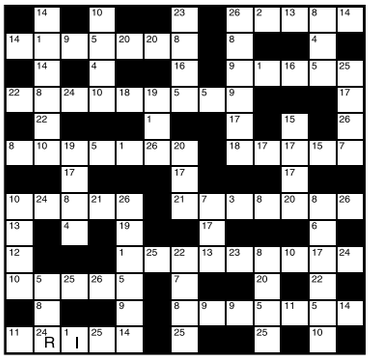
Sandwell Chronicle Thursday, November 5, 2015

BRAIN GYM No.350

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to start you off.



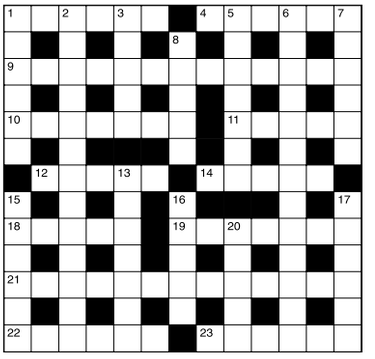
1 I	14
2	15
3	16
4	17
5	18
6	19
7	20
8	21
9	22
10	23
11	24 R
12	25
13	26

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTION:

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
D	B	U	R	Q	N	Z	E	F	L	P	A	W
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
X	J	T	H	S	Y	O	I	C	M	G	K	V

Double Crossword

Choose either quick or cryptic clues - both fit the same grid.



Cryptic Clues:

Across

1. Put a chess piece in pledge? (6)
4. 100 with tender chest (6)
9. Everything came free in vain (3,3,7)
10. No position for a moderate (7)
11. Happen to set dog on officer commanding (5)
12. Meals of wood? (5)
14. Girl gives small coin (5)
18. Strength could be used here (5)
19. Parcel I take to be a bad copy (7)
21. Seeking a popular style in some sort of way (5,1,7)
22. Have nothing to do with such rubbish (6)
23. One who intends to be more niggardly? (6)

Down

1. Positions about 50 steps this way (6)
2. Esteemed source of water came to mind (4,7,2)
3. Eat away like some active rodent (5)
5. The opposite of go in as a result? (7)
6. Not in a bad state as a reasonable proviso (4,9)
7. About to drag up notice (6)
8. Also two points in the mountains (5)
13. Back answers used by scientists (7)
15. I am to have a couple to spoil (6)
16. Go off course one foot, being under the doctor (5)
17. As waved by the prohibitionist? (6)
20. A step in adhesive production (5)

Quick Clues:

Across

1. Iterate (6)
4. Bog (6)
9. Without delegates (13)
10. Hung down (7)
11. Expiate (5)
12. Form (5)
14. Worth (5)
18. Go in (5)
19. Labour (7)
21. Imprisonment (13)
22. Puts off (6)
23. Niche (6)

Down

1. Slices (6)
2. In brackets (13)
3. Horrify (5)
5. Daunt (7)
6. Dictatorial (13)
7. Abrupt (6)
8. Prepared (5)
13. Depict (7)
15. Following (6)
16. Guide (5)
17. Sides (6)
20. Not asleep (5)

Sudoku

	5		6			9		
9				3				6
8	4				1		3	7
	9	3		5	7		8	
								3
	7		3	8		6	4	
7	3		9				5	4
		9						1
		4	8		5		7	

Fill in the grid below so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LAST WEEK'S SOLUTIONS >

5	4	3	8	9	2	1	6	7
8	1	6	3	5	7	4	9	2
9	7	2	6	4	1	3	8	5
2	3	4	9	1	6	7	5	8
7	8	1	5	2	4	6	3	9
6	5	9	7	3	8	2	4	1
3	6	5	1	7	9	8	2	4
4	9	7	2	8	3	5	1	6
1	2	8	4	6	5	9	7	3

LAST WEEK'S CROSSWORD SOLUTIONS: CRYPTIC - Across: 6 Claimed; 7 Suite; 9 And; 10 Comparing; 12 Underhanded; 15 Respiration; 17 Quartered; 19 Mar; 21 Drone; 22 Medical. Down: 1 Plant; 2 Gin; 3 Peso; 4 Guarantor; 5 Stunted; 8 Upshot; 11 Inspiring; 13 Earned; 14 Require; 16 Malay; 18 Even; 20 Tin. QUICK - Across: 6 Onerous; 7 Smear; 9 Fop; 10 Sedentary; 12 Benediction; 15 Predecessor; 17 Destitute; 19 Pun; 21 Donor; 22 Deceive. Down: 1 Endow; 2 Try; 3 Sure; 4 Imitation; 5 Warrior; 8 Remiss; 11 Rendition; 13 Excite; 14 Freedom; 16 Suave; 18 Tier; 20 Sea.

Thinking space

Quiz

1. Who succeeded Cecil Parkinson in 1983 as Conservative party chairman?
2. What are Formentera, Ibiza, Minorca and Majorca collectively known as?
3. What cargo was H.M.S. Bounty carrying when the mutiny occurred?
4. In what year was NATO established?
5. In which village did Jesus reputedly turn water into wine?
6. In which year did Mao Tse-tung die?
7. Which Italian P.M. was kidnapped by the Red Brigade in 1978?
8. Who wrote The Life of Dr. Johnson?
9. In which country is the Jutland peninsula?
10. In which country, other than Malawi, is the kwacha a unit of currency?

Last week's solutions:

Quiz: 1 SF; 2 Watercress; 3 Polish Symphony; 4 1965; 5 Rhine; 6 Fear of men; 7 Trombone; 8 Zambezi; 9 Diana Prince; 10 1910.

Niner: CREMATING

Niner

Each number from 1 to 9 represents a different letter. Solve the clues and insert the letters in the appropriate squares to discover a word which uses all nine letters.

478 gives something to wear,
3524 gives a second thing to wear,
93261 gives a third thing to wear.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9

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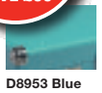

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D8955 Union Jack

D8951 Black

D8954 Leather

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The most powerful model in our range, this reflector telescope is the perfect way of seeing the stars above in incredible detail. Brilliant for budding astronomers, this telescope lets you view lunar craters, star clusters and other planets like you've never seen them before.

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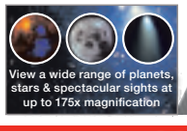

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- Recently Refurbished
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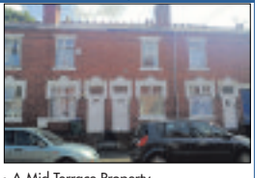

- A Mid Terrace Property
- Two/Three Bedroomed
- Two Reception Rooms
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- EPC RATING F, Freehold

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CRANKHALL LANE, WS10 0DY

- An End Terraced Property
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- Conservatory

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- Two Bedrooms
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- Two Reception Rooms
- Central Heating
- EPC RATING E, Freehold

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- Three Bedrooms
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- Three Bedrooms
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- Freehold, No Upward Chain

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KING CHARLES ROAD, HALESOWEN

EXTENDED home in SOUGHT AFTER location with NO UPWARD CHAIN. 2 reception rooms & EXTENDED fitted 14ft kitchen. 33ft garage/utility. 3 bedrooms & family bathroom with white suite. DRIVEWAY to front. LARGE timber summerhouse/office in rear garden. GCH fitted. EPC rating: E

QUINTON **£225,000**

NEW

EDWARD ROAD, OLDBURY

EXTENDED detached family home with DOUBLE GARAGE to rear off Elsma Rd. Having 28ft lounge diner, 12ft kitchen & D/S WC. Also 20ft family room & separate utility area. REFITTED shower room & 3 GOOD size bedrooms on 1st floor. DRIVEWAY to front. Lawn garden with private aspect. GCH & UPVC DG fitted. EPC rating: D

QUINTON **£220,000**

NEW

WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD, OLDBURY

NO UPWARD CHAIN - Link detached family home with 22 ft lounge diner & nearly 11ft breakfast kitchen. 3 GOOD SIZE bedrooms & bathroom with white suite. 30ft GARAGE & driveway. Lawn rear garden. GCH & UPVC DG fitted. EPC rating: TBC

QUINTON **£199,950**

NEW PRICE

BERRY CLOSE, SMETHWICK

Well presented, spacious, MODERN, family home, upon this popular development, with gas radiator heating, double glazing, having Entrance hall (downstairs wc off), DELIGHTFUL LOUNGE, dining room, fitted kitchen, 3 BEDS, bathroom, GARAGE, pleasant rear garden. EPC C.

BEARWOOD **£169,950**

NEW PRICE

WOLVERHAMPTON RD, OLDBURY

NO UPWARD CHAIN - Excellent property opportunity to EXTEND & MODERNISE. Having 2 reception rooms with 9ft kitchen to rear. 28ft TANDEM garage - potential to convert. 3 bedrooms & bathroom on 1st floor. Parking to front. Lawn garden to rear. Part DG & part GCH. EPC rating: F

QUINTON **£159,950**

NEW

BRISTNALL HALL ROAD, OLDBURY

SPACIOUS,Well presented, THOUGHTFULLY IMPROVED, DOUBLE FRONTED, intermediate family home, convenient position, having GCH & DG, with SPACIOUS THROUGH LOUNGE, dining/sitting room, re-fitted kitchen, 3 GOOD SIZED BEDROOMS, 2 bathrooms, off road parking, Pleasant garden. MUST BE VIEWED. EPC TBC.

BEARWOOD **£157,950**

NEW

BLEAKHOUSE ROAD, OLDBURY

Deceptively spacious, semi detached property in popular location, WITH DELIGHTFUL GOOD SIZED REAR GARDEN, gas radiator heating, double glazing, having attractive lounge, dining/sitting room, kitchen, 3 BEDROOMS, shower/wet room, and DRIVE providing off road parking. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC tbc.

QUINTON **£134,950**

NEW

WARSTON AVENUE, BARTLEY GRN

LARGE terraced home with DRIVEWAY to front in CUL-DE-SAC location. REFITTED 14ft breakfast kitchen, 15ft lounge diner & D/S WC. 4 bedrooms on 1st floor with REFITTED shower room with white suite. UPVC DG fitted & GCH to ground floor only. EPC rating: C

QUINTON **£124,950**

NEW

BERTRAM ROAD, SMETHWICK

Deceptively spacious intermediate terraced property, CONVENIENT FOR LOCAL SHOPPING FACILITIES, having gas radiator heating, double glazing, with 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen, downstairs bathroom, 3 bedrooms, rear garden. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. EPC D.

BEARWOOD **£114,950**

NEW PRICE

OVERDALE ROAD, QUINTON

Deceptively spacious, End terraced property, occupying a pleasant position within this convenient neighbourhood, requires inspection, with gas radiator heating, double glazing, SPACIOUS LOUNGE, kitchen, downstairs bathroom, conservatory, 3 Good sized bedrooms, EXTREMELY LARGE REAR GARDEN. EPC E

BEARWOOD **£105,000**

NEW PRICE

CHESHIRE ROAD, SMETHWICK

Deceptively spacious, mid terrace, conveniently situated, with gas radiator heating, double glazing, having Entrance hall, lounge, dining/sitting room, kitchen, downstairs bathroom, 3 BEDROOMS, additional wc (off landing), rear garden. EPC D

BEARWOOD **£99,950**

NEW PRICE

FENTON STREET, SMETHWICK

Deceptively spacious mid terrace, convenient for local shopping facilities, with NO UPWARD CHAIN, having 2 reception rooms, kitchen, 2 DOUBLE BEDROOMS, bathroom, rear garden. VIEWING ESSENTIAL. EPC F.

BEARWOOD **£95,000**

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EPC: C

West Bromwich
St. Christopher Close

- Three bed detached
- Quiet cul-de-sac location
- Centrally heated
- Convenient to the M5 (J1)
- Dining room area
- Bathroom with shower

£675pcm

EPC: D

Tipton
Hellier Avenue

- Three bed detached
- Close to Dudley Port train station
- Gas CH & D/Glazed
- Fitted kitchen with integrated oven
- Downstairs WC
- Garage

£625pcm

REDUCED

EPC: D

Wednesbury
Hydes Road

- Recently redecorated
- Three bed semi
- Gas CH & D/Glazed
- Utility room
- Fully fitted kitchen with cooker
- Private rear garden

£575pcm

EPC: D

Wednesbury
Darby Road

- Three bedrooms
- Fitted kitchen with oven
- Separate dining room
- Bathroom with shower
- Rear garden
- Must be viewed!

£550pcm

EPC: C

Tipton
Thunderbolt Way

- Ground floor apartment
- D/Glazed & Centrally heated
- Breakfast kitchen
- Two double bedrooms
- Bathroom with shower
- Allocated car parking space

£475pcm

REDUCED

EPC: C

Tipton
Ferguson Drive

- Two bed first floor apartment
- Popular local development
- Double glazed
- Separate dining kitchen with appliances
- Bathroom with shower

£450pcm

EPC: B

Tipton
Gough Drive

- One bedroom first floor apartment
- Kitchen with integrated cooker
- Bedroom with fitted wardrobes
- Bathroom with bath and shower facilities

£425pcm

REDUCED

EPC: C

Tipton
Brindlefields Way

- One bed first floor apartment
- Canal side views
- Open plan lounge
- Fully fitted kitchen
- Electric storage heated
- Double glazed

£325pcm

EPC: C

Dudley
Attingham Drive

- Four bed detached house
- Gas central heating
- Double glazed
- Spacious lounge
- Open plan fully fitted kitchen
- Utility room

£750pcm

REDUCED

EPC: E

Willenhall
Worcester Road

- Three bedrooms
- Fitted kitchen diner
- Lounge
- Verandah / sun room
- UPVC double glazing
- Gas central heating

£550pcm

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Gillott Road, EDGBASTON,

NEW

Refurbished detached property comprising, entrance hallway, two reception rooms, refitted kitchen, wet room, conservatory, three bedrooms, refitted family bathroom, D/G, C/H, driveway, front & rear gardens. No onward chain.

Offers Around £209,950

Dawson Street, SMETHWICK,

NEW

Impressive Modernised Family Home! Two reception rooms, refitted kitchen, refitted bathroom, three double bedrooms, fitted shower room, double glazed, centrally heated, front & rear gardens. Ideal first time purchase, No Upward Chain.

Offers Around £144,950

Gladys Road, BEARWOOD,

NEW

A RECENTLY RENOVATED TRADITIONAL TERRACE PROPERTY! Two reception rooms, refitted kitchen, modern bathroom suite, two bedrooms, double glazed, gas central heating, traditional features, rear garden. Ideal First Time Purchase. No Upward Chain.

Offers Around £127,950

Kimberley Road, SMETHWICK,

NEW

Mid terraced property offered with no onward chain comprising, two reception rooms, fitted kitchen, ground floor bathroom, two double bedrooms, double glazed, centrally heated, front & rear gardens. Ideal investment opportunity or First Time Purchase!

Offers Around £94,950

Humphrey Middlemore Drive,

REDUCED

Spacious Bungalow offering versatile living space with two bedrooms, living room, conservatory, bathroom, guest WC, fitted kitchen, off road parking, detached garage & rear garden. The property enjoys an attractive position in Harborne. No Upward Chain..

Offers Around £215,000

Bertram Road, SMETHWICK,

REDUCED

Well maintained terraced property offered with no onward chain comprising, porch, two reception rooms, fitted kitchen, ground floor bathroom with additional WC, three bedrooms, front and rear gardens, D/G and C/H.

Offers Around £109,950

William Savage Way, SMETHWICK,

SSTC

A modern detached property comprising, hallway, two reception rooms, fitted kitchen, cloakroom, three bedrooms (master en-suite), family bathroom, D/G and C/H, front & rear gardens, garage, driveway.

Offers Around £225,000

Village Road, ASTON,

SSTC

Extended end terraced property, two reception rooms, fitted kitchen, utility room, refitted bathroom, cloakroom, three bedrooms, D/G, C/H. No onward chain. THE PROPERTY HAS DRIVEWAY, OUTBUILDING, CAR PORTS (ideal for further usage)

Offers Around £137,500

Tame Road, ASTON,

SSTC

Mid terraced property offered with no onward chain comprising, porch, hallway, 2 reception rooms, fitted kitchen, ground floor bathroom, 3 bedrooms, double glazed & centrally heated, front & rear gardens. IDEAL INVESTMENT OR FIRST PURCHASE!

Offers Around £94,950

St Paul's Road, SMETHWICK,

SSTC

Spacious semi detached property comprising, hallway, downstairs cloakroom, front reception, rear reception room, breakfast kitchen, six bedrooms, bathroom, double glazed, centrally heated, garage, off road parking, front & rear gardens

Offers Over £200,000

Raglan Road, SMETHWICK,

SSTC

Spacious first floor maisonette comprising, two bedrooms, reception room, fitted kitchen, bathroom, centrally heated where specified. (110 year lease, ground rent and service costs under £200 per year!)

Offers Around £75,000

Pritchard Close, SMETHWICK,

SSTC

A beautifully presented town house comprising, hallway, fitted kitchen, lounge, conservatory, three bedrooms, family bathroom, D/G and C/H, front and rear gardens. Close to shops, schools, transport links etc. No Upward Chain!

Offers Around £119,950

Alwin Road, ROWLEY REGIS,

A three bedroom detached property with NO ONWARD CHAIN, the property briefly comprises: entrance hall, living room, kitchen, conservatory, three bedrooms and bathroom, front and rear gardens, off street parking

Offers Around £155,000

West Park Road, SMETHWICK,

Semi Detached in sought after location, comprising; two reception rooms, refitted kitchen/diner, cloakroom, four bedrooms, refitted bathroom with separate shower, D/G and C/H, driveway, large rear garden. NO ONWARD CHAIN!

Offers Around £265,000

Brisbane Road, SMETHWICK,

Immaculately refurbished family home comprising, hallway, through lounge, refitted kitchen, three good sized bedrooms, refitted bathroom, well presented rear garden, double glazed and centrally heated. IDEAL FIRST PURCHASE! NO ONWARD CHAIN!

Offers Around £129,950

Colman Crescent, OLDBURY,

The property comprises, porch, refitted kitchen, two reception rooms, three bedrooms, refitted family bathroom, double glazed and centrally heated, front and rear gardens, garage. IDEAL FIRST PURCHASE!!!

Offers Around £149,950

Gilbert Road, SMETHWICK,

Mid terraced property comprising, porch, two reception rooms, refitted kitchen, refitted bathroom, two double bedrooms, double glazed and centrally heated, front and rear gardens.

Offers Around £105,000

Thimblemill Road, SMETHWICK,

An impressive modern three bedroom semi detached property situated in a residential area of Bearwood/ Smethwick, offering three bedrooms, through living room, kitchen, modern bathroom, fore & rear gardens, off road parking, D/G & GCH where specified.

Offers Around £146,000

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55 ALEXANDER ROAD, SMETHWICK

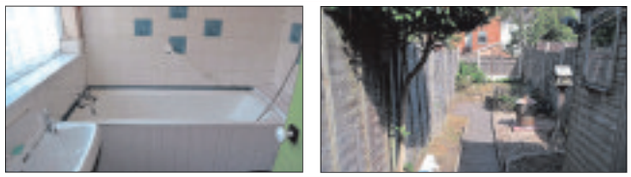
- Well presented family home
- 3 bedrooms, Fully tiled bathroom
- Spacious lounge, Kitchen/breakfast room
- Downstairs cloakroom
- Neatly laid out garden with workstore
- Off-street parking for 2 cars
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £137,500

89 DEVON ROAD, BEARWOOD

- PRIME LOCATION, CLOSE TO WARLEY WOODS
- 3 BEDROOMS, FULLY TILED REFITTED BATHROOM
- SPACIOUS LOUNGE, KITCHEN/BREAKFAST ROOM
- SIDE GARAGE, WELL STOCKED NEAT GARDEN
- OFF-STREET PARKING, INSPECTION A MUST
- ENERGY RATING : F

OFFERS BASED ON £294,950



92 SALISBURY ROAD, SMETHWICK

- Close to Cape Hill
- Double glazed
- Gas centrally heated
- Three bedrooms
- Two reception rooms
- In need of refurbishment

OFFERS BASED ON £99,950

NEW

185 FARM ROAD, OLDBURY

- 3 bedrooms & shower room
- Dining room & ext. lounge
- Kitchen/breakfast room
- Conservatory, Downstairs cloakroom
- Side garage, Spacious garden
- Off-street parking
- IDEAL FAMILY HOME
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £149,950

NEW

5 PARLIAMENT STREET, WEST BROMWICH

- Charming end town house
- 3 bedrooms & shower room
- Two reception rooms, Kitchen & verandah
- Fully tiled outside WC
- Neatly laid out garden
- Off-street parking

OFFERS BASED ON £139,950

48 WILLIAM ROAD, SMETHWICK

- 3 bedrooms and bathroom to the first floor
- Downstairs shower room, Kitchen/breakfast room
- Split level through lounge/dining room
- Verandah, side garage, work store, and carport
- Off-street parking and Neatly laid out garden to the rear
- Being in need of general updating, ENERGY RATING : F

OFFERS BASED ON £236,500

2 BELLE VUE DRIVE, HALESOWEN

- 2 double bedrooms
- Refitted bathroom with shower
- Hall, lounge, separate dining room
- study and laundry
- Garage and 3 car off-road parking

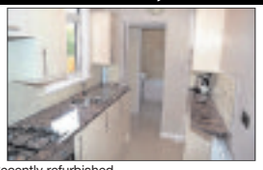
OFFERS BASED ON £265,000

1 CRADDOCK ROAD, SMETHWICK

- 3 bedrooms & bathroom
- Spacious lounge, Kitchen/breakfast room
- Downstairs cloakroom
- Off-street parking 2/3 cars
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £127,950

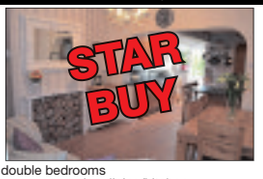
26 WESTON ROAD, BEARWOOD



- Recently refurbished
- 2 double bedrooms/superb bathroom
- Lounge, dining room and Excellent kitchen
- Neatly laid out rear garden
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £154,950

44 ST MARYS ROAD, BEARWOOD



- 2 double bedrooms
- Lounge, open plan dining/kitchen
- Superbly presented garden
- Inspection simply a must
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £149,950

50 CARDINAL CLOSE, EDGBASTON

- Ground floor flat
- Two bedrooms
- Open plan lounge/kitchen
- Communal gardens
- Allocated parking

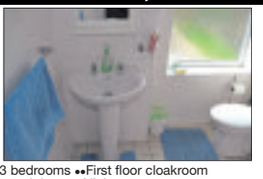
OFFERS BASED ON £104,950

71 SELSEY ROAD, EDGBASTON

- Two bedrooms
- Spacious bathroom
- Lounge & dining room
- Fitted kitchen
- Ideal FTBs
- ENERGY RATING : E

OFFERS BASED ON £114,950

48 SELSEY ROAD, EDGBASTON



- 2/3 bedrooms
- First floor cloakroom
- Through lounge/dining room
- Fully tiled shower room
- Ideal FTBs
- ENERGY RATING : D

OFFERS BASED ON £130,000

PRICES from £59,000

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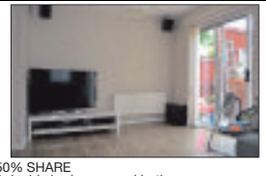
98 EDISON GROVE, QUINTON

- 100% SHARE
- 2 double bedrooms and Bathroom
- Kitchen/breakfast room and Spacious lounge
- Off-street parking
- ENERGY RATING : C

ASKING PRICE £108,000

98 EDISON GROVE, QUINTON



- 50% SHARE
- 2 double bedrooms and bathroom
- Kitchen/breakfast room and Spacious lounge
- Off-street parking
- ENERGY RATING : C

ASKING PRICE £54,000

MONDAY 15TH FEBRUARY 2016 AUCTION

Our first auction of the year!

Following the success of sales this year, we are now taking entries for our next Auction. Please phone Derek Spires or Steven Baker for more information.

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KINGSWINFORD
Ashley Close

NEW INSTRUCTION

A superb and very WELL PRESENTED semi detached property off Cot Lane, a desirable location in Kingswinford. Having an enclosed entrance porch, through hallway, dining room, SPACIOUS LOUNGE, first floor landing, THREE BEDROOMS and a shower room. Outside is a foregarden and a shared driveway leading to a DETACHED GARAGE and rear garden. Viewing comes highly recommended. EPC - Ordered

£189,950

DUDLEY
Cardoness Place

NO UPWARD CHAIN Trinity Property are pleased to offer a semi detached property in a popular location in Dudley. Having an entrance hall, SPACIOUS OPEN PLAN LOUNGE, kitchen diner with appliances, two bedrooms, family bathroom, front and rear LANDSCAPED gardens and two separate parking spaces. VIEWING COMES HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. EPC- Ordered.

£134,950

Kingswinford
Halt Mews

A superb and well presented SEMI-DETACHED property on the highly demanded "Himley View" modern development. This property has been much improved from the original specifcation having an entrance hall, guest WC, FITTED KITCHEN , spacious lounge, two DOUBLE bedrooms, family bathroom and a well kept rear garden. Having two parking spaces to the front, viewing is highly recommended on this fantastic home! EPC - C

£155,000

BRIERLEY HILL
Bent Street

NEW INSTRUCTION

TRINITY PROPERTY are pleased to offer for sale a unique opportunity to buy a traditional style DETACHED property with a yard and GARAGE/ WORKSHOP. Having TWO bedrooms, two reception rooms and an EXTENDED kitchen leading onto a YARD giving possibilities for business use (subject to planning). Located close to the MERRY HILL Shopping Centre, this property, previously used a coal merchants and having NO UPWARD CHAIN, is well worth viewing! EPC - Ordered

£189,950

Lower Gornal
Ash Grove

NEW INSTRUCTION

A beautifully presented DETACHED two bedroom bungalow. Situated in a CUL-DE-SAC location and within walking distance to Gornal Village. Deceptively spacious accommodation comprising; entrance hall, modern fitted kitchen, dining area, lounge with French doors opening to the rear garden, en-suite to master bedroom, family bathroom. Outside of the property there is an enclosed rear garden, detached double garage and driveway. EPC - D

£210,000

TIPTON
Bell Street

THIS PROPERTY MUST BE SOLD. OPEN VIEWING ON 14TH NOVEMBER. CALL NOW TO CONFIRM YOUR VIEWING. EPC - C

£119,950

LANESFIELD
Brynmwar Road

Trinity Property are pleased to offer for sale a SEMI_DETACHED property having an entrance hallway, lounge, dining room, kitchen, UTILITY ROOM, guest WC, three bedrooms, bathroom, separate WC and WELL KEPT front and rear gardens, The property is close to local shops and amenities and easy access to the Black Country Route offering access to all motorway networks. Viewing is highly recommended EPC - D

£115,000

WE CAN SELL YOUR HOME FOR £1200 INCLUDING VAT (£999 + VAT) NO SALE NO FEE NO CATCH ANY HOUSE ANY VALUE!

NETHERTON
Round Street

NEW PRICE

TRINITY PROPERTY are pleased to offer a well presented and EXTENDED end terraced property in a popular location having a lounge, dining room, cellar, FITTED KITCHEN, downstairs bathroom, TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS, rear garden and shared side access. Being suitable for a first time purchase, viewing comes highly recommended. EPC-D

£86,500

TIPTON
Bayleys Lane

NEW PRICE

A traditional style semi-detached house having an enclosed porch, entrance hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, three bedrooms, uptstairs family bathroom, front side and rear gardens and out buildings. EPC - F

£94,950

DUDLEY
Southgate Way

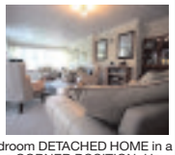
NEW INSTRUCTION

TRINITY PROPERTY are very pleased to offer for sale a well presented second floor apartment in a popular location. Having a communal entrance via intercom, hallway, kitchen/ lounge with fitted appliances, double bedroom leading onto a Jack and Jill style bathroom. Having an allocated parking space, this property is ideal for a first time buyer or investment opportunity. Viewing is a must! EPC - B

£70,000

Oakham
Greenfels Rise

NEW INSTRUCTION



This is an EXTENDED four bedroom DETACHED HOME in a private cul-de-sac location in a CORNER POSITION. Having an entrance hallway, guest WC, extended lounge, FITTED DINING KITCHEN with appliances, CONSERVATORY, Family bathroom, attractive gardens to front, side and rear and a GARAGE. Located i in the popular residential area of OAKHAM and has easy access to M5/M6 corridor links. The property come highly recommended for early viewing. EPC - Ordered

£260,000

GORNAL
Goodrich Mews

A very well presented and well planned corner-turner style property having a spacious entrance hall, guest WC, lounge, KITCHEN DINER with fitted appliances, first floor landing, master bedroom with ENSUITE, two further bedrooms, family bathroom, front and rear gardens and a garage. VIEWING IS A MUST! EPC - B

£147,500

DUDLEY
Cardoness Place

NEW PRICE

Trinity Property are pleased to offer for sale a well presented SEMI-DETACHED property on a corner plot in a popular location in Dudley. Having an entrance hall, SPACIOUS OPEN PLAN LOUNGE, kitchen diner with appliances, two bedrooms, family bathroom, front and rear gardens and a shared driveway. VIEWING COMES HIGHLY RECOMMENDED. EPC - ordered

£119,950

DUDLEY
Queens Hall, St

NEW INSTRUCTION

NO UPWARD CHAIN; an outstanding and exceptionally stylish top floor apartment situated in secured landscaped grounds within walking distance of Dudley town centre. The apartment comprises of; double bedroom with en-suite shower room, second bedroom, bathroom, large living room, allocated parking, professionally maintained/ landscaped gated grounds. EPC - Ordered.

£104,950

Tividale Quays
Bradshaw Close

NEW INSTRUCTION

TRINITY PROPERTY are plerased to offer for sale a great opportunity for a FIRST TIME BUYER or property INVESTOR. This mid terraced modern style property comes with an entrance hall, lounge, kitchen, two DOUBLE bedrooms, a family bathroom, rear garden and space for PARKING. With no upward chain, this property comes highly recommended. EPC - C

£94,950

Tividale
Taylor Way

REDUCED

A three bed detached property on a popular modern estate with good transport links, having double glazing and central heating, lounge, fitted kitchen/diner with utility room off, upstairs has three good sized bedrooms (master with en-suite shower/WC), house bathroom/WC. Front and rear gardens, off road parking, single garage. Unfurnished, available for long term rental. No pets, no smokers, no DSS. EPC - D

£695 PCM & Fees

DUDLEY
Dingle Road

TO LET

A spacious three bedroom family home near the Oakham Road with dining room, lounge, utility area, garage, two large double rooms and a further small single room, house shower room/WC with separate bidet. No DSS, no pets, available now for long term let. Unfurnished. EPC - E

£695 PCM & Fees

BRIERLEY HILL
Milton Street

TO LET

A three bedroom semi detached house with two reception rooms. Fitted kitchen. Downstairs toilet. Upstairs bathroom. Two double bedrooms and further single. Driveway. Garden to rear. DSS considered with guarantor. No pets. EPC E

£525 PCM & Fees

DUDLEY
Ivanhoe Street

TO LET

Three bedroom end terrace. Has two reception rooms. kitchen with cooker, bathroom. central heating, double glazing. Unfurnished. DSS considered with guarantor. Available now to view. EPC - D

£495 PCM & Fees

DUDLEY
Aldeney Close

TO LET

A modern first floor apartment on this new development. Accommodation comprising of one bedroom, open plan lounge/ fitted kitchen. Viewing highly recommended, No Pets, No DSS - EPC B

£465 PCM & Fees

NETHERTON
Windmill End

TO LET

A two bedroom ground floor flat with separate entrance and access to rear courtyard. Accommodation comprises of open plan lounge and kitchen area. Bathroom with shower over bath and w/c. Gas central heating. Unfurnished, available to view now. DSS considered with guarantor or through Dudley council bond scheme. EPC - C

£450 PCM & Fees

Ideal family home is well-presented

THIS beautifully presented traditional semi-detached property in Glyn Farm Road, Quinton, Birmingham, is an ideal family home.

It is for sale through Robert Oulsnam at £165,000. The property is situated within Quinton, providing ease of access to Junction 3 of the M5 and Hagley Road. Worlds End Infant and Nursery School can both be accessed within one mile of the property. Asda, Tesco, Starbucks and the Reel Cinema are all located within a mile

The accommodation includes three bedrooms with built-in wardrobes, a bay-fronted through lounge complete with feature fireplace and sliding patio doors to rear garden, a useful lean-to providing storage space and side access to the garden and a block-paved driveway providing parking for two vehicles. There is also a porch, entrance hall, a kitchen and a bathroom.

For further information contact Robert Oulsnam on 0121 4299986 or visit the website www.oulsnam.net

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Properties Urgently Needed

NEW
OLDBURY
SOLD WITHIN 24 HOURS
DEFFORD DRIVE
A traditional semi-detached house in need of complete refurbishment and modernisation. Comprising entrance hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, side verandah, three bedrooms, bathroom. Double glazing and central heating where specified. Gardens to front and rear. Small garage and off road parking. EPC Rating D
Offers in the region of £104,950

OLDBURY
WOLVERHAMPTON ROAD
Traditional semi-detached family residence in need of general updating and decoration. Reception hall, lounge, dining room, kitchen, lobby, downstairs toilet, side verandah, three bedrooms, bathroom, boarded loft, central heating, double glazing, garage and parking, garden to rear. EPC Rating D
Offers in the region of £189,950

OLDBURY
MATTY ROAD
Traditional end terraced house in need of general updating and decoration. Entrance hall, through lounge/dining room, kitchen, understairs store cupboard, three bedrooms, bathroom, separate toilet, airing cupboard and store cupboard, Block paved driveway and rear garden. EPC Rating E
Offers in the region of £120,000

OLDBURY
FLORENCE ROAD
Traditional semi-detached property in convenient and popular location comprising entrance hall, lounge, understairs store cupboard, kitchen, lobby, downstairs shower, three bedrooms, bathroom., double glazing, central heating, parking for three vehicles. Large garden at rear. EPC Rating D
Offers in the region of £119,950

OLDBURY
McKEAN ROAD
Semi-detached house situated within walking distance of Oldbury Town Centre comprising Porch, front sitting room, rear sitting room, rear lobby, , kitchen, three bedrooms, bathroom, central heating, part-double glazing,front and rear gardens. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC Rating F
Offers in the region of £114,950

OLDBURY
DOUGLAS ROAD
A traditional semi-detached house in need of general improvement and updating comprising porch, entrance hall, lounge, dining kitchen, three bedrooms, shower room. Double glazing, central heating, off-road parking and garden to rear. EPC Rating TBC
Offers in the region of £109,950

OLDBURY
ETHEL STREET
An opportunity to acquire a well presented end terraced property comprising front sitting room, lobby, rear sitting room, kitchen, rear lobby, bathroom, two bedrooms. Central heating, double glazing, established garden at rear. NO UPWARD CHAIN. EPC Rating E.
Offers in the region of £99,950

SMETHWICK
SABELL ROAD
Terraced House in need of improvement and modernisation situated in a popular residential location off Smethwick High Street. Front sitting room, rear sitting room, kitchen, two bedrooms, bathroom, central heating, double glazing and rear garden. EPC Rating D
Price: £90,000

TO LET
OLDBURY
SUMMERTON ROAD
A second floor unfurnished two bedroomed flat offering excellent opportunity for single person or couple for long-term tenancy comprising communal areas with entry phone secure access, hall entrance, lounge, kitchen/diner combined, two bedrooms, bathroom, double glazing, electric storage heating, allocated parking and visitors parking to rear. DEPOSIT £780 - EPC Rating TBC
£550 pcm

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Harvills Grange showhome interior

Harvills Grange exterior

Eden Valley exterior

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Harvills Grange, West Bromwich

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Brunswick Terrace,Wednesbury
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Offers in the Region Of £300,000

Bear Lane,Henley-In-Arden
- Two Bedroomed Apartment
- Open Plan Living Area
- Master Bedroom with En-Suite
- Modern Fitted Kitchen
- Underfloor Heating
- Integral Appliances

Offers in Excess of £235,000

Doulton Road,Rowley Regis
- Detached Property
- Four Bedrooms
- Double Garage
- Off Road Parking
- Downstairs W.C.
- Living Room

OIRO £219,950

James Watt Street,West Bromwich
- Semi-detached
- Porch
- Two reception rooms
- Extended kitchen/diner
- Three bedrooms
- Bathroom

OIRO £169,950

Wrenbury Drive,Bilston
- SEMI DETACHED
- THREE STORY
- LOUNGE/DINER
- DOWNSTAIRS WC
- FITTED KITCHEN
- CONSERVATORY

OIRO £169,950

Comberford Drive,Wednesbury
- SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- LOUNGE
- DINING ROOM
- KITCHEN
- UTILITY ROOM

OIRO £155,000

Bull Lane,West Bromwich
- Four Bedroom
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Down Stairs W.C.
- Off Road parking
- Semi Detached House

Offers in the Region Of £150,000

Park Street,Wednesbury
- SEMI DETACHED HOME
- POPULAR LOCATION
- ENTRANCE PORCH
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- FITTED KITCHEN
- UTILITY ROOM

OIRO £145,000

Neptune Street,Tipton
- DETACHED PROPERTY
- TWO BEDROOMS
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- RECENTLY RE-FURBISHED
- DOUBLE GLAZED
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING

Offers in the Region Of £140,000

Remembrance Road,Wednesbury
- SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- FITTED KITCHEN
- CONSERVATORY
- FITTED BATHROOM
- THREE BEDROOMS

Offers in Excess of £129,950

Old Park Road,Wednesbury
- Terraced
- Three Bedrooms
- Open Plan Lounge Diner
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Downstairs WC
- Family Bathroom

Offers in Excess of £124,950

Hursey Drive,Tipton
- SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
- TWO BEDROOMS
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- LOUNGE
- KITCHEN/DINER
- DOUBLE GLAZING

Offers in the Region Of £109,950

Salter Road,Tipton
- MID TERRACE
- THREE BEDROOM
- KITCHEN/DINER
- MODERN FITTED BATHROOM
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- REAR GARDEN

Offers in Excess of £99,950

Carrington Road,Wednesbury
- MID TERRACED HOUSE
- ENTRANCE HALL
- LOUNGE
- KITCHEN/DINER
- DOWNSTAIRS BATHROOM
- THREE BEDROOMS

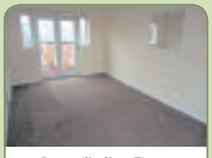
Offers in the Region Of £90,000

Newbolt Road,Bilston
- POPULAR LOCATION
- MID TERRACED HOUSE
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- LOUNGE
- DOWNSTAIRS WC
- THREE BEDROOMS

OIRO £90,000

Queen Street,Wednesbury
- Semi Detached
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Rear Garden

Offers in Excess of £90,000



Bonneville Close,Tipton
- UPPER FLOOR FLAT
- GREAT ASPECT
- ENTRANCE HALLWAY
- SPACIOUS LOUNGE
- FITTED KITCHEN
- TWO BEDROOMS

OIRO £85,000

Thunderbolt Way,Tipton
- Second Floor
- No upward chain
- Two Bedrooms
- Family Bathroom
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen

OIRO £79,950

Toll End Road,Tipton
- NO CHAIN
- Two bedrooms
- Close to amenities
- Ample off road parking
- Lounge
- Spacious rooms

Offers in the Region Of £74,950

Mytton Grove,Tipton
- UPPER FLOOR FLAT
- WELL PRESENTED
- ONE BEDROOM
- SHOWER ROOM
- RECEPTION HALL
- LOUNGE

OIRO £65,000

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Wednesbury

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Goodchilds Estate Agents & Lettings

Wesley Grove,Wednesbury

- Three bedroom Semi detached House
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central heating
- Front and Rear gardens
- Recently Refurbished
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £450

Bloomfield Road,Tipton

- Two Bedroom Dormer Bungalow
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Rear Garden
- Off Road Parking
- DHSS CONSIDERED

Monthly Rental Of £450

Lower High Street,Wednesbury

- Three Bedroom Flat
- Double Glazing
- Electric Heating
- Off Road Parking
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £425

Wiley Road South,Wednesbury

- Two Bedroom Apartment
- New Build First Floor
- Communal Entrance/Staircase
- Hallway
- Lounge/Kitchen
- Bathroom with Shower Over

Monthly Rental Of £450

Carver Court,Tipton

- First Floor One Bedroom Flat
- Off Road Parking To Rear
- Electric Heater
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £350

Talbot House,Wednesbury

- First Floor Apartment
- Central Location
- Close to Bus Station
- Electric Heating
- Off Road Parking
- DHSS ACCEPTED

Monthly Rental Of £325

Warren Close,Tipton

- One Bedroom first Maisonette
- Double Glazing
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- Perfect First Home
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £300

Gordon Avenue,West Bromwich

- Three Bedrooms
- Front and Rear Garden
- Lounge
- Fitted Kitchen
- Family Bathroom
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £615

Damson Wharf,Tipton

- Three Bedroom Three Storey House
- Double Glazing
- Garage
- Off Road Parking
- Utility Room
- DHSS ACCEPTED

Monthly Rental Of £595

Navigation Lane,West Bromwich

- Two Bedrooms
- Modern Fitted Kitchen
- Front And Rear Gardens
- Off Road Parking
- Popular Location
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £565

Solly Grove,Tipton

- Three Bedrooms Semi Detached
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Large Rear garden
- Off Road Parking
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £575

The Avenue,Wednesbury

- Two Bedrooms First Floor Apartment
- Double Glazing
- Electric Heating
- Fitted Kitchen
- Allocated Parking
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £450

Myvod Road,Wednesbury

- One Bedrooms Ground Floor Apartment
- Electric Heating
- Double Glazing
- Off Road Parking
- Newly Refurbished
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £425

Hanover Road,Rowley Regis

- Two Bedrooms
- Large Lounge
- Laminate Flooring
- Bathroom
- Modern Kitchen
- DHSS ACCEPTED

Monthly Rental Of £395

Knowles Street,Wednesbury

- Three Bedrooms Detached
- Large Rear Garden
- Garage Conversion
- Downstairs WC
- Off Road Parking
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £650

Woden Road North,Wednesbury

- Three Bedrooms Semi Detached House
- Located Near A School
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Off Road Rear Parking
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £600

Jasmine Way,Wednesbury

- Three Bedroom Semi Detached House
- Integral Garage
- Two Reception Rooms
- Utility and Downstairs WC
- Front and Rear Gardens
- Off Road Parking

Monthly Rental Of £600

Princes End,High Street

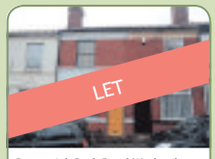
- One Bedroom First Floor Flat
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Open Plan Kitchen/Diner
- DHSS ACCEPTED

Monthly Rental Of £350

Willenhall Street,Wednesbury

- Three Bedroom Terraced House
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Off Road Parking
- Large Rear Garden
- SORRY NO DHSS

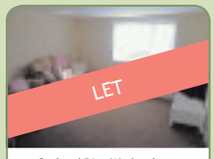
Monthly Rental Of £575



Brunswick Park Road,Wednesbury

- Two Bedroom Terrace House
- Double Glazing
- New fitted Kitchen
- Large Garden
- Gas Central Heating
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £495



Orchard Rise,Wednesbury

- Two Bedrooms Ground Floor Apartment
- Double Glazing
- Brand New
- Fitted Kitchen
- Electric Heating
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £475

Vauxhall Road,Birmingham

- ONE BEDROOM FLAT
- GROUND FLOOR
- GAS CENTRAL HEATING
- SPACIOUS LOUNGE
- BATHROOM
- KITCHEN

Monthly Rental Of £450

Walsall Street,Wednesbury

- One Bedroom First Floor Apartment
- Electric Heating
- Off Road Parking
- Double Glazing
- Secured Accses
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £400

PROPERTY LETTING FEES

TENANT FEES

- DEPOSIT ON APPLICATION
- RENT PAYABLE IN ADVANCE
- PROCESSING FEE £90PP
- ADMIN FEE £65
- SIX MONTHLY RENEWAL £90
- CHECKOUT FEE £90

LANDLORDS FEES

- SET UP FEE £0
- ADMIN FEE £0
- RE-LET FEE £0
- MANAGEMENT FEE 10% OR 12%

IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS REGARDING THE FEES THEN PLEASE SPEAK TO A MEMBER OF STAFF.

Goodchilds Estate Agents & Lettings
www.goodchilds-uk.com

87452/072015

Warren Close,Tipton

- Two Bedroom Maisonete
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Off Street Parking
- Fully Furnished
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £395

Wednesbury,Phoenix Rise

- One Bedroom Maisonete
- Double Glazing
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Off Street Parking
- Gas Central Heating
- DHSS ACCEPTED

Monthly Rental Of £380

Elwell Street,Wednesbury

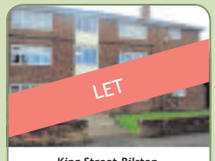
- First Floor One Bedroom Maisonette
- Double Glazing
- Gas central Heating
- Fully Fitted Kitchen
- Perfect First Home
- SORRY NO DHSS

Monthly Rental Of £375

Manifold Way,Wednesbury

- One Bedroom Second Floor Apartment
- Double Glazing
- Gas Central Heating
- Allocated Parking
- Fitted Kitchen
- SORRY NO DHSS

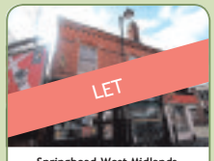
Monthly Rental Of £375



King Street,Bilston

- Two Bedroomed Upper Floor Flat
- Spacious Throughout
- Modern Kitchen and Bathrooms
- Popular Location
- DHSS Considered
- Call Today!

Monthly Rental Of £375



Springhead,West Midlands

- One Bedroom Split level Flat
- Off Road Parking
- Close to amenities
- Fitted Kitchen
- Perfect first Home
- DHSS ACCEPTED

£350

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Oldbury

INTERNAL INSPECTION ESSENTIAL

Wolverhampton Road
An opportunity to acquire a fantastic spacious three bedroom semi-detached house with ground floor extension, good sized garden and rear garage with access from Parsons Hill Enclosed porch, reception hall, cloaks cupboard, downstairs wc, sitting room, living room, extended kitchen/breakfast room, dining area, utility, landing, three bedrooms, bathroom with shower cubicle, rear garage, rear garden, gas boiler heating radiators, double glazing to windows where specified. EPC=E

Offers in the region of £264,950

Halesowen Hunnington

NOW AVAILABLE TO VIEW

Bromsgrove Road
An impressive detached house which has been finished to a high specification comprising two reception rooms and kitchen breakfast room, four good sized bedrooms, two with ensuites, house bathroom and fantastic rear garden. The property benefits from solar power and rain water harvesting. Enclosed porch, reception hall, fitted cloakroom, store, sitting room, living room, kitchen/breakfast room, utility area, landing, master bedroom with en-suite, bedroom two with en-suite, two further bedrooms, house bathroom, garage, fantastic rear garden. EPC=C

Offers in the region of £435,000

Halesowen

OPEN TO VIEW
SAT 7th NOV
11am-1pm

Flat 1 Mansion Court
Long Lane
* Ground Floor Flat
* Re-fitted Kitchen
* Living Room
* Bathroom
* Communal Parking

EPC=D
Offers in excess of £64,500

Oldbury

Chestnut Road
* Semi-detached house
* Living room and dining room
* Re-fitted kitchen
* Three bedrooms
* Bathroom with separate wc
* Extensive rear garden

EPC=F
Offers in the region of £199,950

Halesowen

Carters Lane
* Detached house
* Two reception rooms
* Conservatory
* Three bedrooms
* Garage
* Landscaped garden

EPC=D
Offers in the region of £289,950

Halesowen

Hamilton Avenue
* Detached house
* Three bedrooms
* Two reception rooms
* Gas central heating
* Double glazing to windows as detailed
* Garage and car port

EPC=D
Offers in the region of £235,000

Quinton

Worlds End Lane
* Semi-detached house
* Lounge and dining room
* Utility and downstairs wc
* Three bedrooms
* Side garage
* Lovely rear gargen

EPC=D
Offers in the region of £187,500

Quinton

College Road
* Terraced house
* Much improved and modernised
* Re-fitted kitchen/breakfast room
* Three bedrooms
* First floor re-fitted bathroom

EPC=C
Offers in the region of £139,950

Quinton

Bissell Street
* End terraced house
* Re-fitted kitchen
* Three bedrooms
* Re-fitted bathroom
* Garage

EPC=C
Offers in the region of £164,950

Oldbury

Alexandra Court
Penncricket Lane
* Ground floor purpose built flat
* Two bedrooms, bathroom with shower over bath * Lounge with focal point fire
* Fitted kitchen with oven hob and extractor
* Allocated parking space * Communal gardens
* Vacant possession available EPC=D

Offers in the region of £75,000

Birmingham

Clent View Road
* Mid terraced House
* Conservatory
* Three bedrooms
* Re-fitted shower/wet room
* Garage in block

EPC=C
Offers in the region of £130,000

Cradley Heath

Valley Road
* Extended semi detached house
* Through living room
* Downstairs wc
* Two bedrooms
* Re-fitted bathroom
* Conservatory
* Ideal for first time buyers EPC=D

Offers in the region of £129,950

Rowley Regis

Darby Street
* Semi-detached bungalow
* Kitchen/breakfast room
* Living room
* Dining room/potential second bedroom
* Bedroom
* Garage

EPC=D
Offers in the region of £139,950

Halesowen

Ladysmith Road
* Mid terraced house, ideal first time purchase
* Tastefully presented
* Two reception rooms
* Downstairs bathroom
* Two bedrooms
* Gas boiler heating radiators
* Landscaped garden EPC=D

Offers in the region of £105,000

Halesowen

Spiral Close
* First floor flat
* Double bedroom
* Ideal first time buy
* Lounge & dining area
* Communal gardens
* Off road parking

EPC=D
Offers in the region of £68,500

Halesowen

Corville Road
* Extended semi-detached house
* Through living room
* Three bedrooms
* Side garage
* Cul-de-sac location

EPC=E
Offers in the region of £179,950

Rowley Regis

Darby Street
* Semi-detached bungalow
* Close to Blackheath town centre
* Reception hall, lounge, kitchen
* Bedroom, bedroom 2/dining room, bathroom
* Pleasant gardens, off road parking, gas boiler radiators

EPC=D
Offers in the region of £125,000

Halesowen

Lyttleton House
Blackberry Lane
* Retirement flat
* Two bedrooms
* Shower room

EPC=C
Offers in the region of £109,950

Halesowen

Gower Road
* Individual Architect Designed Detached House in need of general modernisation & improvement * Fitted Cloakroom, Reception Hall * Living Room Forming Lounge & Dining Area * Breakfast Room, Kitchen & Store Room * 3 Bedrooms * Large Garaging * Extensive Gardens (Side building plot excluded) EPC=E

Offers in the region of £250,000

Halesowen

Long Lane
* Terraced house for owner occupiers only
* In need of some general modernisation
* Kitchen/breakfast room
* Two bedrooms
* Bathroom

EPC=D
Offers in the region of £79,950

Halesowen

Newbury Close
* A Tastefully Presented Detached House
* Fitted Kitchen/Breakfast room * Dining Room
* Lounge Leading to Conservatory
* Principal bedroom with en-suite
* Three further bedrooms
* House Bathroom * Landscaped Private Gardens * Garage EPC=C

Offers in the region of £290,000

Halesowen

Gower Road
* Spacious detached house
* Three bedrooms
* Lounge * Dining room
* Breakfast kitchen & Re-fitted bathroom
* Utility/WC
* Delightful garden

EPC=E
Offers in the region of £259,950

Halesowen

Blakedown Road
* Semi Detached
* Three Good Sized Bedrooms
* Re-fitted Kitchen and Re-fitted Bathroom with Shower Cubicle
* Garage
* Lovely Rear Garden

EPC=D
Offers in the region of £187,950

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IF you're currently renting but would love to buy, speak to Lovell Homes now and find out why this could be the perfect time to secure a brand new home at the company's Harvills Grange development in West Bromwich.

Located less than a mile from the A41 Black Country New Road, Harvills Grange offers a great choice of homes including properties ideal for first-time buyers – and with the Government-backed Help to Buy Equity Loan scheme, you can make your money go even further. Lovell is a proud supporter of Help to Buy which enables purchasers to secure a 20 per cent equity loan (which is interest-free for the first five years) from the Government.

To find out more, visit the sales and marketing suite on Dial Lane, West Bromwich B70 0EQ, open on Monday from 11am to 5pm and on Thursday to Sunday, from 10am to 5pm. Alternatively, call 0121 222 8044, visit lovellnewhomes.co.uk

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Residential Auction House of the Year 2014

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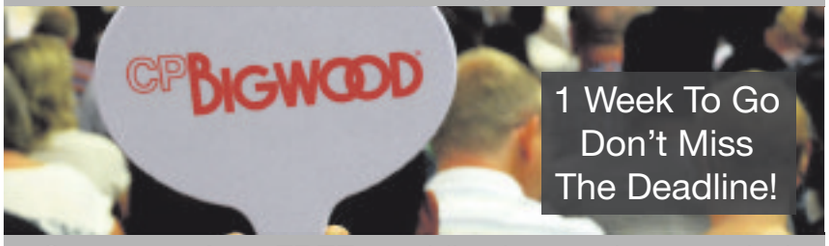

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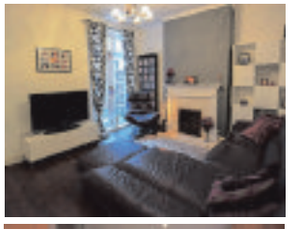
NEW

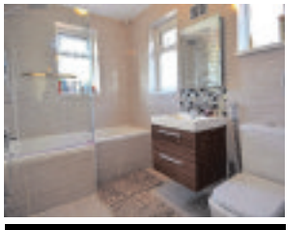


Lightwoods Hill, Bearwood

- Tastefully Presented Mid Terrace
- Views of Lightwoods Park
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- No Upward Chain
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £214,950

NEW



White Road, Quinton

- Stylish Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Modern Kitchen
- Contemporary Style Bathroom
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £185,000

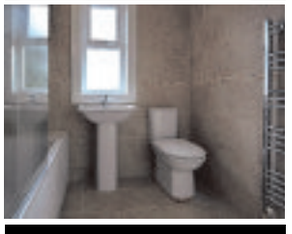
NEW

Shireland Road, Smethwick

- Traditional Mid Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Modern Kitchen and Bathroom
- No Upward Chain
- EP Rating TBC

Offers in the region of £109,950

NEW



William Road, Smethwick

- Tastefully Decorated End Terrace
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Modern Extended Kitchen
- No Upward Chain
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £149,950

Barclay Road, Bearwood

COMPLETED! 98% OF THE ASKING PRICE ACHIEVED

Offers in the region of £229,950

Pargeter Road, Bearwood

COMPLETED! 102% OF THE ASKING PRICE ACHIEVED

Offers in the region of £279,950

Upper St Marys Road, Bearwood

COMPLETED! 98% OF THE ASKING PRICE ACHIEVED

Offers in the region of £164,950

Perry Hill Road, Oldbury

COMPLETED! 96% OF THE ASKING PRICE ACHIEVED

Offers in the region of £249,950

Willow Avenue, Edgbaston

COMPLETED! 99% OF THE ASKING PRICE ACHIEVED

Offers in the region of £249,950

Southfield Avenue, Edgbaston

COMPLETED! 97% OF THE ASKING PRICE ACHIEVED

Offers in the region of £100,000

NEW PRICE

Talbot Road, Bearwood

- Traditional Mid Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Period Features
- No Upward Chain
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £122,500

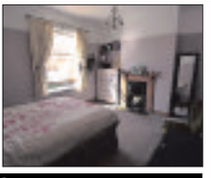
NEW PRICE

St. Marys Road, Bearwood

- Traditional Mid Terrace
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Re-fitted Kitchen & Bathroom
- No Upward Chain
- EP Rating F

Offers in the region of £139,950

NEW PRICE



St Marys Road, Bearwood

- Charming Traditional Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Useful Loft Space
- No Upward Chain
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £149,950

NEW PRICE

Capethorn Road, Smethwick

- Tastefully Presented Terrace
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- Modern Kitchen
- Period Features
- EP Rating D

Offers in the region of £119,950

NEW PRICE

Trinder Road, Smethwick

- Traditional Semi Detached Property
- Three Bedrooms
- Two Reception Rooms
- No Upward Chain
- Close to Warley Woods
- EP Rating E

Offers in the region of £139,950

NEW PRICE

Hickory Drive, Edgbaston

- Ground Floor Maisonette
- Two Double Bedrooms
- Quiet Cul-De-Sac Location
- Garage En Bloc
- Perfect 1st Purchase
- EP Rating E

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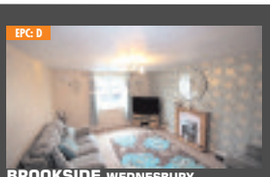
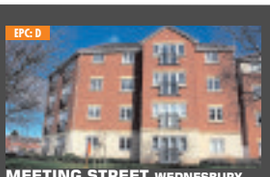
EPC:E
MONTGOMERY WALK WEST BROWICH
- ONE/TWO BED FIRST FLOOR APARTMENT
- DOUBLE GLAZED, WARM AIR HEATED
- IDEAL INVESTMENT/ FTB
- WALKING DISTANCE TO TOWN CENTRE

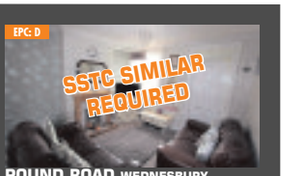
£69,950


EPC: D
BROOKSIDE WEDNESBURY
- SUPERBLY PRESENTED APARTMENT
- TWO BEDROOMS
- ELECTRIC HEATING
- DESIGNATED PARKING

£84,950


EPC: D
MEETING STREET WEDNESBURY
- TWO BEDROOM APARTMENT
- EN SUITE TO BEDROOM ONE
- FAMILY BATHROOM
- ALLOCATED PARKING SPACE

£84,995



EPC: D
POUND ROAD WEDNESBURY
- END OF TERRACE HOME
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- UTILITY & FITTED CLOAKS

£92,950

EPC:D
MANOR ROAD WEDNESBURY
- THREE BEDROOMS
- END TOWN HOUSE
- DOUBLE GLAZING
- CENTRAL HEATING

£99,950

EPC:E
BERKSHIRE CRESCENT WEDNESBURY
- TWO BED SEMI DETACHED
- QUIET LOCATON
- THROUGH LOUNGE
- DOUBLE GLAZING

£99,950

EPC:C
BEECH CRESCENT WEDNESBURY
- TWO DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- SEMI-DETACHED
- CUL-DE-SAC LOCATION
- OFF ROAD PARKING

EPC: D
BASSETT ROAD WEDNESBURY
- EXTENDED END TOWN HOUSE
- THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- LOUNGE/LARGE DINING KITCHEN
- DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRAL HEATING

£108,000

EPC:D
COLES LANE WEST BROMWICH
- THREE BEDROOM END TOWN HOUSE
- REQUIRES MODERNISATION
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- CONDENSING CENTRAL HEATING

£109,950

EPC: D
WARNER ROAD WEDNESBURY
- TWO BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
- IDEAL STARTER HOME
- WC FACILITY
- CENTRAL HEATING

£110,000

EPC: D
LEA AVENUE WEDNESBURY
- TWO BEDROOM DETACHED BUNGALOW
- SET BACK OFF MAIN ROAD
- DOUBLE GLAZED & CENTRAL HEATING

£122,995

EPC: B
CRAMP HILL DARLASTON
- MODERN THREE STOREY SEMI
- THREE DOUBLE BEDROOMS
- QUIET LOCATION CLOSE TO VILLAGE CENTER
- EN SUITE

£139,950

EPC:E
ADDISON TERRACE WEDNESBURY
- THREE BEDROOMS
- DETACHED
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- CONSERVATORY

£164,950

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WE HAVE 40 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN SELLING PROPERTY

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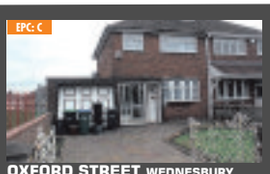
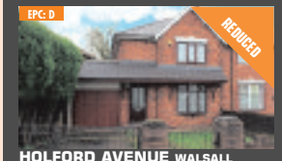
N.B. ALL DETAILS BASED ON WEDNESBURY SALES AGENTS AND CORRECT ON RIGHTMOVE AS OF 6th OCTOBER 2015


EPC: C
OXFORD STREET WEDNESBURY
- THREE BED SEMI DETACHED
- LOUNGE & KITCHEN
- DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRAL HEATING
- DRIVEWAY, GARAGE & NO CHAIN

OFFERS OVER £110,000



EPC: D
HOLFORD AVENUE WALSALL
- TWO BEDROOM SEMI DETACHED
- LOUNGE AND KITCHEN
- DOUBLE GLAZING & CENTRAL HEATING
- REAR GARDEN & OFF ROAD PARKING

£119,000

THE FURLONG WEDNESBURY
- THREE BEDROOMS
- SEMI-DETACHED
- CUL-DE-SAC LOCATION
- DINING KITCHEN

£134,000

EPC: E
PARKDALE AVENUE WEDNESBURY
- THREE BED SEMI DETACHED HOUSE
- LOUNGE & DINING ROOM
- CONSERVATORY
- GROUND FLOOR SHOWER ROOM

£149,995

EPC: D
WESTMORE WAY WEDNESBURY
- FIVE BEDROOM DETACHED
- CUL DE SAC LOCATION
- TWO RECEPTION ROOMS
- ENCLOSED REAR GARDEN

£229,950

Wednesbury	Tipton	West Bromwich	Willenhall	Walsall	Bilston
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Bradshaw Close, Tipton

- Modern Middle Terrace
- Gas Central Heating ● No Upward Chain
- Ideal First Time Purchase / Buy To Let
- 2 bedrooms, EPC C

OFFERS AROUND: £94,950
Viewing:

Cranmore Close, Tipton

- Semi Detached Family Home
- Upvc Double Glazing ● Electric Heating
- Quiet Cul De Sac Location
- 3 Bedrooms, EPC E

OFFERS AROUND: £125,000
Viewing:

Jean Drive, Tipton

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- Sought After Development
- 2 Bedrooms, EPC C

OFFERS AROUND: £112,000
Viewing:

Hursey Drive, Tipton

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- 2 Bedrooms, EPC D

OFFERS AROUND: £110,000
Viewing:

Elizabeth Walk, Tipton

- Extended Semi Detached
- upvc double glazing ● gas central heating
- sought after location ● Garage Conversion
- 3 Bedrooms, EPC E

OFFERS AROUND: £160,000
Viewing:

Glebefields Road, Tipton

- Traditional Semi Detached
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- 3 Bedrooms, EPC tbc

OFFERS AROUND: £130,000
Viewing:

Menin Road, Tipton

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- No Upward Chain
- 3 Bedrooms, EPC tbc

OFFERS AROUND: £129,995
Viewing:

Patricia Drive, Tipton

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- 2 Bedrooms, EPC D

OFFERS AROUND: £110,000
Viewing:

St Christopher Close, West Bromwich

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OFFERS AROUND: £190,000
Viewing:

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OFFERS AROUND: £129,950
Viewing:

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Viewing:

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- Energy Rating F, Kitchen & Conservatory

OFFERS AROUND: £115,000
Viewing:

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Viewing:

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Viewing:

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RASCAL LITEWAY 4 wheels, easily transportable, cost £1,200, 11 months old, $325. 07804 239956 or 0121 471 1013. (delivery possible)

2 Leisure Time

camping equipment

VANGO AIRBEAM inflatable tent, no poles, sleeps upto 6 people. Brand new, never used. Cost over £700 sell £450. 07717338587.

BUY LOCAL SELL LOCAL
01902 317878
ClassifiedAds

car boot sales

CAR BOOT SALES!
Every Sunday and Bank Holiday Monday
Every Sunday
Muckley Corner, Hall Lanes, Lichfield, WS14 0BE
Boots £3.50
6.00am-2pm
Meat Van Required
07538 842842

INDOOR CAR BOOT SALE. Every Sunday, 12 noon - 2pm. Brook Street Community Centre, Tipton DY4 9DD. 01215570371

caravans / motorhomes

MOTORHOME WANTED, 2 berth, low profile, up to 5 years old, private cash buyer. 07711 978646.

sports & leisure

FreeAds
IT'S FREE, IT'S EASY
For items upto £250.
Online at
bookanad.expressandstar.co.uk

mind, body & soul

clairvoyance

CLAIRVOYANT JOHN STARKEY. Private appointments, home visits and telephone readings. Call 01902 334224. www.john-starkey.co.uk

hair & beauty

UNISEX MOBILE HAIRDRESSER All areas covered. Over 10 years experience. Call 07792 868474.

what's on

antique fairs

ANTIQUE/ COLLECTORS FAIR
CORNBOW HALL, HAGLEY STREET, HALESOWEN, B63 3AT (NEXT TO WILCOS).
FRIDAY 13TH NOVEMBER
8.00AM - 4PM
07712 597468
www.blackcountryfairs.co.uk

christmas events

CHRISTMAS FAYRE
Zion United Reformed Church, Langley Green Road, Langley.
Saturday, November 7.
2pm to 4pm.

markets

BESCOT SUNDAY MARKET OPEN EVERY SUNDAY
Banks's Stadium, Walsall FC
WS1 4SA, FREE PARKING, J9 M6
07889 975701 All hard standing

3 Home & Services

furniture

BFC FURNITURE
Open Everyday 10am-6pm
OPEN SUNDAY 10AM - 4PM
SAVE 50% DIRECT FROM FACTORY
Divan beds from £49. Mattresses from £29. Ortho matts from £69. Memory foam matts £79. Metal fashion bed frames - singles £49, doubles £69. Bunk bed frames £99.
Recliner sofas
MANY HALF PRICE
Leather and fabric chairs from £49
Sofas from £99. Suites from £299
100's of end of line & clearance bargains
BFC FACTORY OUTLET
CONEYGRE ROAD IND EST, GREAT BRIDGE RD, TIPTON DY4 7RG.
OFF A461 2 MINS FROM NEW TESCO & TODY CARVERY
0121 557 6885
BIG CHOICE OF DINING FURNITURE

DINING TABLE with 8 chairs, £180. Coffee table, £30. Three nesting tables, £40. G-plan. Excellent condition 07497 744819.

household appliances

A BIG DISCOUNT TODAY ON
on gas + electric cookers, fires, autos, tumble dryers, fridge freezers, built in ovens and hobs. Most c cards accepted.
24 - 26 Church Street Bilston (opp town hall)
PAST & PRESENT DOMESTIC
CALL 01902 403770

FRIDGE FREEZER in excellent condition. £85 can deliver. 07550 891752.

in your garden

SPECIAL
6x5 Lap Panels
£15 each (inc vat)
WS3 2BQ
Bloxwich Fencing Ltd
Freephone 0500 506041
or 01922 712184

AT C B SHEDS & FENCING We supply/fit. Free quotes. Supply sleepers & decking 01922 720270.

items wanted

ALL GOLD 9ct £300 per ounce
CASH PAID TODAY
A GENUINE LADY BUYER
All Beswick • Doulton • Worcester Moorcroft • Lladro • Old coins • Watches • Costume Jewellery • Old toys • Clocks • Paintings • All silver • Chinese items • Old Ivory. • Military items
Pre'47 silver coins All war medals etc
ANYTHING OLD & INTERESTING
01922 495066 or 07971 783206

AIR RIFLES, SHOT GUNS, Antique guns, taxidermy- big bore guns, traps etc wanted. 07968 624202

HOUSE CLEARANCES Coins, Medals, Records and Bric A Brac. The Curio Shop, 61 George Street, Walsall, WS1 1RS. 07841 596254

READERS ARE ADVISED to carefully consider all of their options before agreeing to the sale of any of their items.

WANTED to buy Catering Unit with good site. 01922 512935.

items for sale

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and become one of hundreds of customers who regularly receive exclusive special offers & discounts.

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pc's, laptops & accessories

CLIENT COMPUTERS
Certified technician & Microsoft partner.
Repair & maintain laptops and PCs. In West Midlands.
Virus removal, broken screens, wifi.
Windows problems etc.
Home visits or bring to me.
Long established.
Laptops available.
0121 556 9481

t.v. / home entertainment

sales

SKY BOX £30, Tevion TV, 32", with stand £50, Hitachi TV, 32" with stand £85. 01785 618554. Stafford

service

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AERIAL & TV SPECIALISTS
Free Estimates on any TV Repairs, Plasma, LCD, 3D, LED, Projection.
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Wall mounts & TV setups.
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specialists at your service

aerials

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FREEVIEW / TALK TALK / BT VISION AERIALS FITTED FROM £75
Work Guaranteed
Same Day Service
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01384 429166
VISA 01543 439095
01922 716029
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carpet & upholstery cleaning

A CLASS CARPET & UPHOLSTERY CLEANING
OAP discount. Recession Prices.
Unbeatable Value: Rooms cleaned from £10
Call Paul 07870 341089

carpets & furnishings

HILLARYS CARPETS
Choose a quality, affordable carpet in the comfort of your own home with Hillarys.
- We bring samples to you
- Choose at home
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- Measuring & fitting included
- Up to 15 years guarantee

ELEMENTS RANGE from £9.99 per sqm
INCLUDES MEASURING & FITTING, DOORBARS, GRIPPER RODS

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Made-to-measure
BLINDS SALE
UP TO **50% OFF**
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CALL **0800 916 6563**
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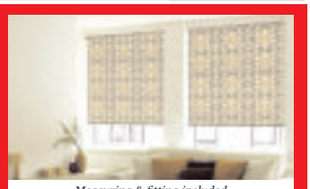

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7 Child Safe Verticals
Fitted from only £199
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alarms/security

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Supplied and Fitted £195
Servicing and Repairs
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All areas covered
All quotes beaten!
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building services

AD DAMP PROOFING
All building work, Roofing, Damp Problems, Plastering etc.
FREE QUOTES
APPROVED CONTRACTOR
07538 118034 or 01902 752161

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Extensions, Garden Walls and All Repairs.
25 years experience.
Call: Ian for a Free quotes
07947 380981

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Collins
- Kitchen and fitted wardrobe Specialists
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- Refurbishments

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B & S JOINERY Six internal pre-primed doors fully fitted from £350. 07958 552625, 07950 867972,

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A CARPETS & VINYLS supplied or just fitted, quality samples brought to your home, no job too small, free quotes call Mark 01543 820598/07941 619694.

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RAPID SECURITY CCTV & alarms cameras, supplied and fitted, domestic and commercial, same day service, free call out. Call Robbi on 07960 173589/ 0800 633 5899.

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SPECIAL OFFER
10 Bays of quality fencing concrete posts, gravel boards & heavy duty panels supplied and fitted
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ALL GATES,RAILINGS, etc. Free quotes, also repairs & fitting. 07903 500642 24 hours.

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FREE QUOTES
All work guaranteed, All trades covered, References available on request. No job too big or too small!
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0121 6010479

house clearances

A1 HOUSE CLEARANCE
Full, part and single rubbish removed.
Garage and sheds cleared.
Ercol and Teak furniture wanted
Call now on:
01922 492007

A ABSOLUTE BEST cash price paid for house clearances and bereavements. Also removals undertaken. 07852 172641 / 07710 360327

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DECORATOR
ALL domestic work undertaken
Reliable & Affordable
Special rates for OAPs
No job too SMALL
Call
07957 346 059

A PROFESSIONAL DECORATING service by RC Decorating. Free competitive quotes: 07773 025880.

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plans prepared

ADAM DESIGN, Building Plans. Drawn and submitted to council. Tel: 01902 620200 / 07841 654037. Email: adamdesign@sky.com

plastering

STEVES PLASTERING SERVICE Clean and Reliable, All Work Undertaken, All Areas. Call 0121 567 5919 / 07977 262943.

removals

A & M CHEAP REMOVALS
Local
Careful Firm
Full or Part loads
Call Don:
07749 941319

A MAN WITH A VAN Single items, flat/house removals/clearances, local/nationwide. Call Steve 0121 422 2999 or 07815 043724

CALL DEAN NOW: For all your Removal needs. 07429 453209/ 01902 830870 / 01384 940260.

CALL PETE - MAN WITH A VAN, Removals, clearances, large/small. 01902 741546, 07899 635852.

roofing

MG ROOFING Flat roofs, tiling, roof repairs, fascias and gutters. Call 01902 238989 / 07580 465449.

skip hire

BLITZ SKIPS
- AFFORDABLE SKIPS
- 2-50 YARD SKIPS AVAILABLE
- PUNJABI SPEAKERS

MONDAY-SATURDAY
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Mini, midi skips
Prompt delivery / collection
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GOLDSHILL SKIPS
Bring your own waste cheaper than skips. General, Green, Wood waste any size vehicle. Phone for prices:
0121 557 3346

GRINSELLS SKIP HIRE LTD. Mini, midi, maxi, large skips. Fast, friendly & reliable service. Monday to Saturday, 6 day service. Call: 0121 555 6060.

STONES SKIP HIRE 0121 557 1480 / 07886 721875 www.stonesskiphire.co.uk

tiling

A FLOOR AND WALL TILER. Est., 26 years. Free quotes. Call Mark 07983 459088, 01902 664048.

tree services

ALL BUDGET TREE SURGERY & LANDSCAPING. Tree trim, shape & removal. Turfing, fencing, patios & much more. Call 07936 882552.

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**Advertise any item FREE up to the value of £250 go to:*
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*T&C's apply
FreeAds

4 Pets & Animals

equestrian corner

ALL READERS are advised to check if Horses have the required Passport information.

pets corner

NOTICE TO READERS

Please be aware that when purchasing a puppy there are some simple guidelines you can follow to ensure that you are not purchasing from a Puppy Farmer:

1. Try to ensure you visit the puppy whilst it is still with it's Mother.
2. Do not arrange to collect a puppy from any other location than that of the breeder.
3. Ensure that you are given any KC documentation, if pedigree.

Whilst Midland News Association publications take great care to avoid publication of advertisements from Puppy Farmers we cannot accept any liability should readers purchase from this kind of establishment.

5 Business & Farming

business opportunities

READERS are recommended to take appropriate professional advice before entering any obligations.

business services

JESSICA'S FOOT HEALTH CARE
Corn and Hard Skin Removal, Nail Trimming, Fungal Infections & Verruca Treatments
HOME VISITS ALSO AVAILABLE!!
9 UNITY WALK, TIPTON
OWEN STREET, DY4 8QL
01215578795 07812390796

commercial premises sale / let

UNITS AND OFFICE SPACE to let in Oldbury, West Bromwich and Walsall. Easy Terms. Ashmore Properties: 0121 520 5318.

6 Property

accommodation to let

J9
No Deposit
Move In Today
Studios from £90pw*
Rooms from £60pw*
*Includes Most Bills
D.S.S. Welcome
Check Website - Live List
All Black Country
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j9accommodation.com

NOTICE TO READERS It is an offence under the Accommodation Agencies Act 1953, for an Agency to charge a fee simply for the registration of your requirements and/or supplying particulars of premises to let.

REFURBISHED single bedsit, bathroom, Cannock, parking, laundrette bills inc, no DSS. 01543 279435.

properties wanted

WE PAY 100% of purchase price
We buy any house — EVERYTIME!
BCH BLACK COUNTRY HOMES
- We are a family run local business.
- Buying properties for over 30 years.
- A fair offer from people you can trust.
- No fees - Free solicitors.
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WE ALSO BUY LAND
commercial and industrial premises, shops, factories, building plots... We will even buy your garden

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CASH NOW FOR YOUR HOUSE
- Legal fees paid
- No fees
- Any condition
- Guaranteed offer
- Repossessions stopped

we can buy your house in 2 days
land and commercial enquiries welcome
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or 01902 628060 24/7
wolverhampton properties
Subject to terms

I CAN BEAT ANY PRICE!
I pay 100% of purchase price
Call now for the best price on your house GUARANTEED
- Guaranteed offer*
- Any condition
- Free solicitors
- No fees*

* Terms apply Part of the PI Group
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FAST CASH FOR YOUR PROPERTY™
OAKWOOD HOMEBUYERS
We guarantee to beat any like for like quote!
- Repossessions STOPPED
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- Legal fees PAID
- Probate Estates Welcome
- Mortgages / Loans Cleared

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FREEPHONE **0800 121 6007**
CASH PAID WITHIN DAYS!
Friendly, local company here to help you 7 days a week. Est. 10 years

Home Cash Buyer
Sell today, sign today, complete when u wish
Houses/Land Required
Ring Paul 24/7local on
07870 341 089
Sandwell Area Call 0121 696 4154
Walsall & Cannock Area Call 01922 432049
Wolverhampton Call 01902 489901
www.homecashbuyer.co.uk

PROPERTIES WANTED
I will pay top cash price for your home.
Fast completion guaranteed.
Call Jack on 07507 865668

7 Jobs

engineering

SERVICE ENGINEER - Cranes & Lifting Equipment Urgently required service/breakdown engineer for cranes & lifting equipment. Good rates of pay depending on experience + overtime + company vehicle - must have experience of: cranes, hoists, runway and lifting beams, and all associated equipment. For further details/interview please contact Graham Handy operations director Crane Care Ltd on 0121 333 3995.

TOOLMAKER Experienced, Contract press toolroom Glenbeth Tool West Brom 0121 553 0715.

employment wanted

CLASS 1 DRIVER, aged 65, seeks any driving work, even part time,very experienced, anything considered. 01922 512935.

courses

CRH Transport Training Train and Test at our centre in West Brom 0121 3231777 crhtraining.co.uk

MTS HGV training, Willenhall. Minibus, 7.5 tonne C1 & car & trailer 01902 866510 / 07807 035066

hair & beauty

GENTS HAIRDRESSER
(Barber required)
Also School Leaver for Apprenticeship
Quinton
Tel 0121 422 4104

part time - general

TRANSPORT MANAGER required to look after 6 vehicles, 20 hours p.w. based in Smethwick, good rate of pay.
Contact 0121 553 1702.=

sales & marketing

MANAGER / SALESPERSON - Experienced conservatory sales representative required to manage busy showroom in studley. good opportunity to advance into management for the right candidate. Tel - 0121 500 0522 or 07887 674975

SALES - Experienced closer required for growing window company. 3 leads per day, immediate payments. opportunities to move into management for the right person. Tel - 0121 500 0522 or 07887 674975

SALES - Motivated to change your career and work for the right rewards? new trainee sales representatives required, full training provided, earnings in excess of £1000 per week. Car and phone essential. No cold calling. Tel - 0121 500 0522 or 07887 674975.

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BRITISH HGV
Free Driving Assessment
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Very High first time Pass Rate
Clean modern trucks
Initial and Periodic CPC
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full time - general

Tipton HOME CARE LTD
Community Care Workers
Required
Tipton Home Care Limited is a private limited company located in the heart of Tipton, providing personal care and support to the people of Tipton, Wednesbury, West Bromwich, Yew Tree Walsall, Great Barr and Dudley.
We are looking for enthusiastic, honest, trustworthy and reliable individuals to join our team. You must be a car driver as you will be visiting clients in their own homes.
Care experience preferred but not essential as training will be given.
Email your CV with covering letter to tiptonhomecare@btconnect.com
For more information Tel: 0121 557 3649

Bright Bar Opportunities for
Site / Plant Manager
Shift Manager
Team Leader / Operator

A major European bright bar producer has several production vacancies due to an expansion plan to increase shift levels. We are looking for candidates with experience in a cold drawn steel bar plant including drawbenches or Schumags and are used to operating on a shift basis.

A competitive salary, including relocation assistance if required, is available.

If you have the relevant experience are reliable, flexible and looking for a challenge in a new dynamic environment and a new location, then please send your CV or brief resume stating which position you are interested in to :-

Box Number P20108,
Express and Star, Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

Baker & Finnemore Ltd
TITGEMEYER Group
QUALITY ENGINEER REQUIRED
With a springs pressings background and knowledge of TS16949, AS9100 and Quality Core Tools an advantage Baker & Finnemore Ltd are a long established manufacturer of precision pressing based in Birmingham city centre.

Competitive salary on application, with up to 38 days paid holiday per annum, company pension.

Telephone applications to;
Mr Simon Roberts QHSE Manager, 0121 236 2347

ADMINISTRATION / PAYROLL ASSISTANT Wednesbury, Must be experienced in: SAGE 50 Accounts Sage 50 Payroll, Microsoft Excel & Microsoft Word. Email CV to: Christine.Lambert@simefoundry.co.uk

BIOMASS HEATING ENGINEER required. Minimum HD005E qualification. Salary commensurate with experience. Send CV/salary expectation to derek@solenergyrenewables.co.uk or call 07487 882701

9 Local Information

public & legal notices

LEGAL / PUBLIC NOTICES

For convenience you may fax any advertising requirements to

Marie Hogg on 01902 713146

or email marie.hogg@expressandstar.co.uk

(remember to include a name/contact number for confirmation of receipt)

SANDWELL METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

The Borough Council of Sandwell (Charlemont Road, West Bromwich) (Temporary Road Closure No.2) Order 2015 intends to make an Order to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding along Charlemont Road, West Bromwich between Bird End and Meadow Avenue. The maximum duration is 18 months, but the work is expected to be completed by 13/12/15, effective from 13/12/15. Traffic will be diverted via Wigmore Lane, Water Lane, Pennyhill Lane, Hartland Road and vice-versa. Purpose – facilitate access to British Telecom chambers by BT Openreach.

The Borough Council of Sandwell (Langley Green Level Crossing, Crosswells Road, Oldbury) (Temporary Road Closure No.2) Order 2015 intends to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding along Crosswells Road, Oldbury between Western Road and Thompson Road. The maximum duration is 18 months, but the work is expected to be completed by 06/12/15 (10.00hrs) effective from 05/12/15 (22.00hrs). Traffic will be diverted via Western Road, Tat Bank Road, Vicarage Road and vice-versa. Purpose – safety works to Langley Green Level Crossing by Network Rail.

The Borough Council of Sandwell (Red Lion Close, Rowley Regis) (Temporary Road Closure) Order 2015 intends to temporarily prohibit any vehicles from proceeding along Red Lion Close between Regent Road and Harlech Close, Rowley Regis. The maximum duration is 18 months, but the work is expected to be completed by 11/12/15, effective from 30/11/15. Traffic will be diverted via Red Lion Close, Regent Road and vice-versa. Purpose – resurfacing works for Kier Homes by Friel Construction.

10 Personals

personal

ATTRACTIVE FEMALE REP
Tel: 01902 489 181

ATTRACTIVE GENTLEMAN
Aged 39, easy going, laid back, very caring and loving.
WLTM attractive lady age 40-50 for weekends out, genuine friendship possible relationship.
Photo appreciated and returned.
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Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton,
WV1 1ES.

HAVE YOU CHECKED your advertisement today? We would respectfully remind advertisers that it is their responsibility to inform the publishers of any mistakes or inaccuracies on the first day of publication.

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Healthy living, non smoker, considered attractive, own home / business, many varied interests.
Late 50's would like to meet a genuine fun loving lady 45 -55 non smoker, to enjoy quality times and companionship, hopefully leading to a long term relationship.
Box Number C20113 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

YOUNG MAN
47 Years old, with a genuine caring personality, wishes to meet a genuine young lady 25/40 for everlasting relationship.
All letters answered.
Box Number P20115 ,
Express and Star,
Queen Street,
Wolverhampton, WV1 1ES.

8 Motoring

cars over £1500

FORD FIESTA
86,000 miles, blue, abs, electric windows and mirrors, air bag, air con, alarm, long MoT, central locking, pas, diesel.
£2,275 ono.
07971 806627.

FORD FIESTA ZETEC 2014 reg., 1 owner, 3 door, low mileage, alloys, sale due to bereavement. £5,795. 07466 233230.

LEXUS 450 Hybrid, 56, 06, 1 owner from new, fully serviced, full MoT, excellent throughout, £5,650 ono. 07950 724767. 01902 851372.

RENAULT CLIO Dynamique, diesel, silver, 2010, immaculate condition, Tom Tom, fsh, full MoT, £3,900. Telephone 01785 823522.

TOYOTA AVENSIS
2.0 diesel, 2006, 115,000 miles, MoT till June 2016, air con.
£2,200 ono.
01785 222092.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.4SXi Auto, 2007, 3-dr, 43,000 miles, grey, FSH, long MoT, excellent condition £3,475 ono. 07957 005045.

cars under £1500

BMA Est. Here 25 Years
A WIDE RANGE OF CARS UNDER £1,000
Open every day, Full MOT's
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www.bma-motors.co.uk

ADVERTISERS ARE REMINDED
that the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order of 1977 requires that advertisements must clearly differentiate between Private and Trade.

CITROEN PICASSO 1.6 Petrol, 2001, MoT Feb 16, C/L, E/W, 5 door. Great condition. £695 ono. 01543 573130 / 07802 694664.

FIAT PUNTO 1.2
1999, W reg, blue, 9 months MoT. excellent condition,
£500 ono
07912 877950

FIAT STILO 1.2
16v, 3 door, 2003, 80,000 miles, grey, 18 inch black chrome alloys, new tyres, petrol, full mechanical make over, fsh, MoT.
£995.
07765 802480.

HONDA CIVIC 1.4
Lady owner working abroad, Y Reg., good condition, reliable, service history, 12 months MoT, low mileage at 68,140.
£800 o.n.o
07724 194196.

HYUNDAI ELANTRA 2004, 126,000 Miles, red, electric windows, air bag, air con, long MoT, sun roof. £800 07989564681

MGF 1.8 1999, 12 months MoT, many new parts, used daily, bargain £850. Call 01922 624857. 07974 052207.

MUST BE SEEN
ROVER 25 IMPRESSION
3 door hatchback with air con and electric windows.
£950 ono.
01922 451774.

VAUXHALL CORSA 1.2, Active, 04 reg., 11 months MoT, cd, alloys, electrics, drive well. £575. 07506 351866.

driving tuition

Homer's
Mini, Clio, Corsa, Fiesta, Punto, 207, KA, Fiat 500, Yaris.
10 Hours £89! Five Hours £50!
2 Hours £20! All Areas Covered
MALE & FEMALE INSTRUCTORS
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07970 200066 / 01562 870050
01384 234954 / 0121 5640090
01902 580065
www.homersdrivingschool.co.uk

motorbikes

MOTORBIKE Trailer, takes all sizes, £460.
07901 655202.

scrap vehicles

OUR ADVERTISERS are reminded that it is an offence under the Scrap Metal Dealers Act 2013 to buy scrap cars/metal for cash.

SCRAPCARBUYERS.CO.UK
TOP PRICES PAID
0800 533 5139
0121 526 4666
07795 535 007

MCB
TOP PRICES PAID FOR ALL SCRAP CARS, VANS, BIKES, CLASSICS
Tel: 01902 408176
1000's of parts available at all times
MONMORE RD. WV1 2TZ

ABC AUTO SALVAGE
WANTED URGENT
Scrap & MOT Failures Best Prices Paid ELV Registered Spares Always Available
0121 557 0800 or 0121 557 0400. Evening 07813 184611
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Honda and the Beatles share year of so many memories

By Sharon Walters

It was the year the Beatles performed the first stadium concert in the history of music, while cartoon heroes Tom and Jerry and the puppet-tastic Thunderbirds first aired on TV. Cigarette advertising was banned on British TV, the Sound of Music premiered and Churchill was buried. On top of that DJ Jazzy Jeff, Alan Cumming, Brooke Shields and Honda's very own Karen Parry were born.

1965 also saw the year Honda first started trading in the UK.

It also saw the first Grand Prix win for Honda in the legendary RA272, thanks to Ritchie Ginther at the Mexico Grand Prix.

In the last five decades, Honda has achieved milestone after milestone.

Now one of the top 20 biggest brands in the world, Honda employs over 182,000 employees worldwide and has 40 manufacturing facilities making everything from a 25cc leaf blower to a $4m business jet.

Last year, global sales hit 27.3million units, made up of 17 million motorcycles, six million power products and 4.3million cars.

The European arm employs 8,000 people and last year sold almost 1.4million products.

Global

This year also sees 30 years of Honda of the UK Manufacturing (HUM). A 370 acre site in Swindon employing 3,200 people, HUM has benefitted from a self-funded total investment of £2.2bn over the years and will become the global production hub for the five door Civic.

The motorcycles division is number one in the UK market with almost 20 per cent market share. With a product range spanning 65 models, last year, Honda sold 19,000 bikes in the UK.

The power products range has 225 models and last year sold in excess of 50,000 units.

Honda is the number one ATV manufacturer in the UK and the third largest outboard manufacturer.

From a motorsport perspective in the UK, we have the most successful BSB team in the UK and the BTCC team just won the drivers and manufacturers championships for 2015.

Philip Crossman, managing director at Honda UK, commented: "This year marks our golden anniversary in the UK with fifty years of rich history in trading bikes, power products and cars.

"While this year has been significant in refreshing the car range in its entirety and launching several important new bikes, the Japanese way is to take a much longer viewpoint than just 12 months.

"Our business has changed radically over since it launched in the swinging sixties, adapting and evolving to suit the demands of riders and drivers over the years.

"I can well imagine that Honda will be a completely different organisation in 2065 – but still selling quality and trusted cars, bikes and power products."

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Customer deposit	£0	Representative	4.9% APR	Selected annual mileage	6,000
Kia deposit contribution	£1,000.00	36 monthly payments	£119.22	Excess mileage charge	14.9p per mile
Amount of credit	£7,095.00	One final payment (GFV)	£2,902.75		
Total charge for credit	£1,099.67	Total amount payable	£8,194.67		

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Personal Contract Purchase Representative Example: Kia Sportage Diesel Estate 1.7 CRDi ISG 2 5 door

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Customer deposit	£0	Representative	4.9% APR	Selected annual mileage	6,000
Kia deposit contribution	£1,200.00	36 monthly payments	£380.73	Excess mileage charge	14.9p per mile
Amount of credit	£20,000.00	One final payment (GFV)	£8,410.75		
Total charge for credit	£3,317.03	Total amount payable	£23,317.03		

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Fuel consumption figures in mpg (l/100km) for the Kia Sportage range are: Urban 31.0 (9.1) – 47.1 (6.0), Extra Urban 46.3 (6.1) – 58.9 (4.8), Combined 39.2 (7.2) – 54.3 (5.2), CO_2 emissions: 189 – 135 g/km; the Kia Picanto range are: Urban 39.2 (7.2) – 53.3 (5.3), Extra Urban 60.1 (4.7) – 78.5 (3.6), Combined 50.4 (5.6) – 67.3 (4.2). CO_2 emissions are 130 – 99 g/km.

MPG figures are official EU test figures for comparative purposes and may not reflect real driving results. Terms and conditions apply. 7 year/100,000 mile warranty. See your local dealer or visit kia.co.uk for full warranty terms and exclusions. Finance Subject to Status, Guarantees and Indemnities may be required, 18's or over, Kia Motors Finance RH1 1SR. Pictures for illustration purposes only.

Sandwell Chronicle Thursday, November 5, 2015

Tourer practicality but sport car look

By Ian Donaldson

We'll never know how close the new Subaru came to being called the Galuto, Acolin or Cyting before the company decided on Levorg.

It's a mix of the words Legacy (a well respected existing car from Subaru), Revolution and Touring. So the other three work just as well.

Beneath this unusual moniker sits a car that might have been designed especially for a limited number of potential car buyers, all of them deeply wedded to Subaru's design ethos.

So the Levorg features three features bound up with the very idea of a modern Subaru, all items that the select band of Subaru faithful find essential in the car of their dreams.

They are, from the front, an engine whose four cylinders sit flat to the ground, unlike the tall block of oiliness usually found under a bonnet. This puts the weight closer to the road and the car ought to attack corners with less lean in the process.

Then – back a little – we come to the front wheels. Which in the Levorg's case are given the same amount of power to transmit as the pair at the back.

Yes, it's permanent four-wheel drive, another Subaru article of faith and the saviour of many a country vet on a wet, slippery road deep in a Yorkshire dale.

And, sitting behind that lie-flat engine is a gearbox without any gears, or more accurately, only one, which varies itself as you push the throttle harder. That, theoretically at least, ought to mean the engine is always performing at its most economical. We'll see.

Holding all the mechanical bits together is an estate car body that has more space inside for people and luggage than the last Legacy Tourer. Subaru reckons it has the 'imposing presence of a sports car with the practicality of a tourer', which is pushing it a bit. To these eyes the Levorg looks like a sensible estate car with a big bonnet scoop hinting at a rally-filled past.

If you think all of the above marks Subaru out as a company that ploughs its own furrow, you'd be right. It expects to sell a modest 500 Levorgs in a full year in the UK and you can bet there are that number of potential buyers for whom this car – and no other – fits the bill precisely.

Once the decision is taken that it's going to be new Levorg on the drive, there is little else to consider, except the colour. The car comes with but a single choice of equipment (thankfully, there's a lot of it) and in just three metallic colours – grey, white or blue.

Rivals – the Volvo V60 and Mazda6 estate are mentioned by Subaru – offer lots more choice (diesels, front drive only and manual gearboxes, for instance) but that is never the point with a Subaru. Owners love them for their individuality.

They will also like the Levorg for its kit count, which includes LED headlights, 18 inch alloy wheels, keyless access, leather seats (heated in the front), navigation with a big touchscreen, dual zone air conditioning and a rear parking camera.

Out on a mix of scenic Yorkshire roads, the Levorg's new turbocharged 1.6 litre petrol engine felt stronger than its quoted 168bhp and the CVT transmission avoided the soaring revs that used to mark keen use of similar systems.

In fact, on the right (smoothish) surface the Levorg cracks along with enthusiasm. Rougher roads produced an unwelcome pattering from the wheels but the car never felt less than welded to the road. We didn't try for the claimed 130mph top speed or 0-62mph dash in 8.9 seconds.

The test car showed 31mpg on its clear trip computer after a morning's work; not a bad return, if inevitably shy of the official 39.8mpg. The car's 164g/km CO2 output attracts £180 annual road tax.

Like every Subaru in living memory, there is an indestructible feel about an interior that looks well ordered if a bit plain and obviously meant to do the business for years and years.

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Buckle up for smooth ride in the new BMW3

By Matt Kimberley

You'll need your strongest magnifying glass to see the tiny nips and tucks at the front and rear, but the financially savvy will notice the improvements that have been made to the fuel economy and emissions of various models.

There's now a version that dips to 99g/km, earning free road tax – although to get it you'll need to add the £1,550 automatic gearbox. You'll have to do the maths on that one.

The front bumper is a little less sculpted than before, with a greater emphasis on horizontal lines. That's to cater for the tastes of larger markets than ours. The 3 Series is still an image-focused car, though, proudly displaying the correct badge for business types and feeling very much the part on the inside, too.

You could argue that when it comes to premium cars, the domination of the three-box saloon is not as strong as it once was, but there's still a strong following for what has been a hugely popular and influential model in Britain. If you've got a new 3 Series, you're doing alright.

There's a big boot behind the three rear seats, with recessed bins at the sides and a large aperture that lets you nonchalantly slot larger cases straight in. In the front there are useful door bins, and while you won't fit much into the glovebox, the cabin is very spacious for passengers.

Legroom in the back is ample, and more accommodating than it looks because the 3 Series has longer rear seat squabs than many non-premium cars that use shorter squabs to increase the appearance of space.

Leather-covered surfaces are potentially vulnerable to the rigours of family life, but that's pretty much a given in this part of the market.

The 320d is likely to be the biggest seller. The efficiency numbers are impressive and that optional eight-speed automatic gearbox is superb, despite the hefty price tag. The test car only had around 500 miles on it so the engine was almost certainly still at its tightest, but it's fair to say that it felt nowhere near as brisk as its on-paper 188bhp and 295lb/ft suggest.

What you do get is super-stable handling and oodles of grip on the larger wheels of M Sport versions, and well-controlled floatiness on the Efficient Dynamics (ED Plus) model and its tiny-looking but efficiency-boosting 16-inch alloys. Avoid the inconsistent Servotronic steering, though, which completely ruins the standard set-up's linearity and directness.

There's good visibility in all directions, which is handy because you don't sit too high. Using the iDrive is a joy these days, and if you upgrade the standard BMW Business navigation to the Professional grade you're rewarded with a wider, sharper screen with more functionality.

It's not a cheap step up, though. My pick of the options is the superb head-up display. Again, it's pricey, but once you've had it you'll wonder how you ever managed without.

With options the 320D xDrive I drove totalled £46,000. That's a terrifying, absurd figure you should run away from. A standard but very well equipped 335d, with all its lovely torque, is less than £41,000.

Many of BMW's options are simply replacing existing systems with better versions rather than adding crucial new tech, so stick as close to standard spec as you can. In Sport trim and with the automatic added, the 320d is arguably cheaper to own than rivals from Mercedes, Audi and Jaguar.

This is a car with a long-standing trail of success in this country, but its days as the default upgrade from a Mondeo or Passat have been ended by the splurge of crossovers and compact SUVs, most of which are waving the 'premium' flag as hard as they can. The BMW might be becoming the understated choice, but it still drives and handles better than any of its high-riding rivals.

This car summed up in a single word: Classic

If this car was a: kitchen table it would be from the mainstay range at an oak furniture shop. It's robust, looks smart and feels solid, carrying with it a style that will never go out of fashion.

TESTED

BMW 320d, from £29,785

Engine: 2.0-litre turbocharged petrol producing 188bhp and 295lb/ft
Transmission: Eight-speed automatic driving the rear wheels
Performance: Top speed 146mph, 0-62mph in 7.3 seconds
Economy: 67.3mpg combined
Emissions: 111g/km of CO2

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Official Fuel Consumption Figures for the Suzuki Vitara range mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km): Urban 42.1-61.4 (6.7-4.6), Extra Urban 55.4-76.3 (5.1-3.7), Combined 49.5-70.6 (5.7-4.0), CO_2 emissions 131-106 g/km and for the Suzuki Celerio range mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km): Urban 55.3-68.9 (5.3-4.1), Extra Urban 76.3-83.0 (3.7-3.4), Combined 65.7-78.4 (4.3-3.6), CO_2 emissions 99-84 g/km and for the Suzuki Swift range mpg (litres/100km) and CO_2 emissions (g/km): Urban 41.5-57.6 (6.8-4.9), Extra Urban 57.6-72.4 (4.9-3.9), Combined 50.4-65.7 (5.6-4.3), CO_2 emissions 128-99 g/km.

The above fuel consumption figures are based on an EU test for comparative purposes only and may not reflect real driving results. For full details contact your local participating Suzuki Dealer. Offer subject to availability for vehicles privately registered between 1st October 2015 to 31st December 2015 from participating Authorised Suzuki Dealers only. Offer cannot be used in conjunction with any other offers. All prices and specifications correct at time of going to print. Model(s) shown *Celerio 1.0 SZ4 available at £8,999 on the road (Metallic paint available at £415). Celerio range – Celerio 1.0 SZ2 Petrol Manual available at £6,999 to Celerio 1.0 SZ4 Petrol AGS available at £9,799 AND *Swift 1.2 5dr SZ4 available at £12,199 on the road (Metallic paint available at £430). Swift range – Swift 1.2 SZ2 3dr Petrol Manual available at £8,999 to Swift 1.2 SZ4 5dr Petrol Dualjet available at £12,699, *Vitara 1.6 SZ5 2WD Manual with Urban Pack available at £19,169 on the road. (Single-tone metallic paint available at £415, dual-tone paint is available at £800.) Vitara 1.6 SZ4 Petrol manual available at £13,999 to Vitara 1.6 DDiS SZ5 ALLGRIP Manual with Rugged Pack available at £22,549.

Nine-goal thriller is full of drama for Sports

Dudley Sports 5 Bromyard 4

A remarkable West Midlands Premier game at Dudley Sports yielded a match filled with drama with nine goals, two penalties and a sending-off.

Sports took the lead on five minutes when Shepherd Machingauta raced clear to get the ball into the net and put his side on the scoreboard.

With less than half an hour of the game gone the score was upped to 2-0.

Bromyard's Martin Newman was sent off after handling on the line and although Stuart Hillman's penalty was saved by the visiting goalkeeper, Aaron Gordon followed up and put the ball away to boost the score.

Not to be outdone 10-man Bromyard got themselves back into the game minutes later. The resurge came through Dan Polon heading home from a corner.

With the bit between their teeth Bromyard grabbed two goals in the space of four minutes, through Martin Dobson and Dan Scheppel, to put the visitors ahead.

Sports showed real grit and drew level on 48 minutes as Machingauta headed home a Hillman cross.

Bromyard made it 4-3 on the hour when Josh Wetherby scored from the spot.

Yet again Sports came back this time it was captain Tom Watkins who scored from the edge of the box.

Fittingly, the game was settled by a superb goal.

This time it was Hillman who sent in a crashing volley from 25 yards.

Steelers women want new recruits

Sandwell Steelers women. Pic: Garry Charles

SANDWELL STEELERS women's American football team are looking for more people to join their outfit.

The Steelers are beginning their preparations for their second season of action and theSapphire Series that kicks off in February.

The club's men's side enjoyed a hugely successful campaign this year as they gained promotion with a perfect record of 13 wins from 13 games and now the ladies are looking to swell their playing ranks.

The games are five-a-side full contact clashes on a reduced-size playing area and the Steelers team is open to women 17 and upwards.

Samantha Wilson, general manager of the women's team, said: "The Sandwell Steelers women's American football club was started in 2013 following the success of our senior and youth teams.

"We encourage girls of all shapes and sizes to come and try a new sport and while it's not for everyone, nearly all of the girls that have come to try it out have stayed and developed so much in the sport.

"At the moment we are concentrating on five v five full contact games, until we have a few more girls to then start moving into 11 v 11 contact football.

"We are recruiting all the time."

The team's training sessions take place every Sunday from 1-3pm at Tipton Sports Academy.

Contact Samantha Wilson on 07445 226485 or go to the club's Facebook page – facebook.com/sandwellswafc.

Wednesbury side nail the Old Wulfs to bottom spot

Old Wulfrunians 1 Wednesbury 6

DAVE Ward made his return for Old Wulfs with a trademark penalty corner goal.

However, even Ward's efforts couldn't help prevent a heavy defeat to leave Old Wufrunians rooted to the foot of the table.

Once again Wulfs began a game brightly, indulging in neat passing hockey but unable to create the solid openings which were required to break down the experienced visitor's defence if they wanted to make any headway.

After 10 minutes Wulfs where hit by a blow when key midfielder Ablard withdrew from the game with a hamstring problem and soon after Wednesbury opened the scoring with a well-struck, reverse hit finding the back of the net.

Wednesbury put two more past the keeper before half time to effectively seal the game but Wulfs went quite yet ready to lie down just yet.

There was a flurry of penalty corners for Old Wulfs in the second half and some hope of a revival, but after the Ward goal they couldn't prevent Wednesbury from pressing home their advantage.

Wulfs travel to fellow struuglers Kings Heath this week for a real relegation crunch-match.

Streetly 3 Old Wulfs 2nd XI 3
Mark Wilson (3)

Leamington 1 Old Wulfs 3rd XI 5
Sam Aldersley (3) Eddie Thompson, Matt Cartwright

Old Wulfs 4th XI 2 Cannock 0
Karam Lally, Carl Harrison

Stone 0 Old Wulfs 5th XI 5
Callum Nightingale 3, Mike Savage 2

Tivs share spoils with a fifth draw

Daventry Town FC 1 Tividale FC 1

IN torrential rain and on a heavy pitch, Tividale played out their fifth consecutive league draw.

This time the Tivs came out even against Daventry Town at their impressive Communications Park ground.

Tividale started the better with Demetri Brown going past Daventry's left back Jon Bukasa in the first minute and sending a great cross that Chris Sterling met on the volley.

However, he was denied by a fine save from Daventry keeper Cerga Iustin. Daventry's first serious threat came on 24 minutes when a free kick was headed over by Ricky Hill.

With both sides cancelling each other out and clear cut chances difficult to come by it looked like the half would end goalless.

That was until a minute before the break when Malachi Farquharson flicked on a through ball to Chris Rabone who in turn raced down the left flank and whipped in a cross that Sterling fired into the roof of the net from six yards.

At the start of the second half, Tividale again had the first decent chance on 52 minutes when a shot from striker Mark Danks was parried away by Justin and Sterling was first to react but he could only fire the rebound into the side netting.

Daventry levelled the scores on 62 minutes when a disputed Joe Curtis corner was flicked on by Hill and Shariff made no mistake this time.

He stabbed the ball home at the back post.

A minute later a mix up in the home defence let in Danks who sent away Sterling but his shot was brilliantly cleared off the line by Bukasa with Iustin beaten.

Tividale 1 Chasetown 1

A topsy-turvy game saw Chasetown extend their unbeaten run to four matches thanks mainly to goalkeeper John Bateman.

Chasetown started brightly and had the lion's share of the possession, keeping Evo-Stik Division One South bottom club Tividale firmly camped inside their own half.

Despite the territorial advantage, Thomas Turner in the Tividale goal was relatively untroubled with direct shots at goal, with James Dance firing wide, Stan Mugisha driving over the bar and a Rhys Thompson free-kick right on the edge of the box striking the defensive wall.

It was still no surprise though when Chasetown took the lead. A corner was headed back into the danger area by Joe Halsall and a slight obstruction by his own defender caused Turner to spill a regulation catch straight to the feet of Ryan Winter.

Winter took a couple of touches to make the chance easier but comfortably netted his fifth goal of the season.

The lead was short-lived as Chris Rabone was sent tumbling in the penalty area and Chris Sterling confidently converted the spot-kick, sending Bateman the wrong way.

Chasetown came out fighting in the second half, Winter heading wide in front of goal and Richard Davies volleying over while Jason Chilton in defence made a number of excellent blocks and tackles.

But Tividale looked confident in the last 20 minutes and attacked well. Chasetown almost nicked the victory with the last touch of the game.

Jason Chilton of Tividale keeps a close eye on Chasetown's Garfield Robinson during the derby match

Albion need to 'go back to the basics'

CHRIS BRUNT wants Albion to go back to basics at home in order to stop conceding so many goals.

The Baggies have picked up just four points from six games at The Hawthorns this season.

Tony Pulis' side have been defensively sound away from home but at home they've lost three games 3-2.

"We pride ourselves on not conceding goals and at home this season it's been difficult for us," said Brunt. "We've only won here once and we've conceded three goals on a few occasions so that's obviously something we have to address as a team. I'm sure we'll look at it this week."

"I think maybe it's about time we went back to basics at home and made sure we were difficult to beat," said Brunt.

Rangers are taken down by Sporting

Wolves Sporting 6
Smethwick Rangers 3

WOLVES Sporting moved back up to sixth place in the West Midlands Premier with a superb win against form side Smethwick Rangers.

The visitors had been unbeaten in six but were three down in rapid time thanks to goals from Daniel Westwood, Kyle Delaney and Nathan Cain.

Wolves also hit a post and Jon Letford missed a good headed chance from six yards.

Smethwick hit back to cut the arrears to 3-2, but in the second half another fast start by the home team saw Chris Brown net twice either side of Letford bagging his second.

A late goal for Rangers took no gloss off the result for Sporting, who have netted 38 goals in their last 10 games.

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Town lose their grip on away game

Pegasus Jrs 5 Tipton Town 2

TIPTON Town's first ever visit to the splendid Pegasus ground in Old School Lane, Hereford culminated in a convincing defeat following an insipid second-half performance from the visitors.

Tipton had battled well in the first period of the match to turn it around so it was soon all square at 1-1 in the West Midlands Premier clash between the two clubs.

Sean Pearson put Pegasus ahead on 12 minutes but the Black Country club soon equalised through a splendid Ravi Sangha strike just six minutes later which meant the game was on and it could be a case of who blinks first will end up on the wrong side of the score.

Honours remained pretty even for the remainder of the half but no one could see what was coming when the visitors' performance was, unaccountably, to dip sadly in the second period.

This of course gave the home club and their leading scorer Pearson the opportunity to run riot and take their opponents out of the running which is what they set about doing.

Tipton's second-half showing lacked a great deal of the energy they had displayed in the first period and which had kept them in the game but now it was slipping away from them.

However, several of the Town defenders were being too easily brushed aside.

Pearson ended up with four goals for Pegasus, Cory Hyde scoring the other as the visitors' Matt Weyman provided a little second-half consolation by netting.

Manager Paul Totney will be looking for a huge improvement this week when local rivals Wolverhampton Casuals will be visiting Tipton Sports Academy.

Pulis charged by FA over incident involving referee

THE FA have charged Albion boss Tony Pulis with improper conduct for an altercation with referee Anthony Taylor after Saturday's defeat to Leicester.

Pulis is alleged to have used unsuitable 'language and/or behaviour' in the tunnel after the full time whistle at The Hawthorns. He had until 6pm Thursday to respond to the charge.

Taylor turned down three Albion penalty shouts during the match, and afterwards Pulis admitted he had confronted the referee about it.

"I've had a little bit of a go in the tunnel with him," he said. "I apologised for doing that." Taylor infuriated Albion fans by ignoring three separate penalty appeals.

In the first half, Leonardo Ulloa tugged Jonny Evans back at a corner and Robert Huth wrestled Gareth McAuley to the floor.

Then after half-time when the score was 1-1, Huth clattered into Darren Fletcher. Albion's manager took issue with the incidents involving Evans and Fletcher and the Welshman said he was going to contact referees' chief Mike Riley about the game.

Blues are losing their winning ways

Blues 0 Blackburn Rov 0

Football

BIRMINGHAM City have lost their early-season impetus and dropped more valuable home points in a dour 0-0 draw against struggling Blackburn Rovers at St. Andrew's.

It was Birmingham's first point in three games and the third successive match in which they have failed to score.

Defensive-minded Blackburn were intent on at least sharing the spoils and were well worth their point.

Surprisingly both teams operated with only one striker, and the game hardly panned out as Birmingham would have liked. They had hoped, after their third home defeat in four games, the return of American defender Jonathan Spector and Andrew Shinnie would have sparked off a much-needed improvement.

Unfortunately this did not materialise as battling Blackburn experienced little difficulty shutting out Gary Rowett's Blues.

David Cotterill provided an early service of crosses to put Blackburn under pressure but Rovers survived with an obvious defensive blockade.

Blues 0 Wolves 2

Wolves won comfortably. Against a team they started the day nine points behind. So who saw that coming?

Kenny Jackett might have done, and he cannot be praised enough for masterminding what was an important victory, both in terms of supporter morale, and the bigger picture of the play-offs.

In reducing the gap to sixth-placed Blues to six points, it keeps their heads above water in the play-off race.

It also eases the pressure on Jackett, who knows that a season of drifting aimlessly along in mid-table obscurity.

BAGGIES SIDE ARE OUTFOXED

Albion 2 Leicester 3

ON another day, Albion could have had three more penalties.

Had Anthony Taylor deemed any of Robert Huth's trio of misdemeanours in the box an offence, it could have been a different story.

We would be talking about a hat-trick of wins in the Premier League for the first time since 2012 and the Baggies would have joined Leicester as one of the successes of the season so far.

But we're not, and after all the dust has settled and the tempers cooled down, most Albion fans will admit that the better team won.

Jamie Vardy stole the headlines by becoming only the third person to score in eight consecutive Premier League games. It was a breakaway goal brimming with confidence, full of class and pace.

When N'Golo Kante played the ball up to the former non-league striker in his own half, Jonny Evans would have been happy with his position.

But Vardy flicked the ball around the Northern Irishman to Danny Drinkwater, spun the other way and sprinted.

Perfect

Drinkwater played a perfect through-ball and Vardy was away.

There was no catching him, and his finish into the side netting seemed never in doubt.

That goal turned out to be a winner, and so just like Astle Day six months ago, Leicester fought back from behind to win 3-2 and take all three points away from The Hawthorns.

Evans had been warned earlier on in the match when Marc Albrighton threaded through a ball to his striker.

Vardy twisted and turned, and in the process turned Evans inside out before hitting the inside of the post.

Apart from those two moments though, the centre-half had another good game, covering Chris Brunt when he shot up the left flank and making split-second decisions key to any defender.

There will be question marks about Albion's defence for Riyad Mahrez's two goals though.

It's unlike Tony Pulis' side to allow the opposition enough time in the box to let the ball fall on to feet, and even though the second one was offside, the fact it happened twice in seven minutes will infuriate a team known for being disciplined at the back.

Gareth McAuley of West Bromwich Albion and Jamie Vardy of Leicester City

For a fan-base crying out for more creative intent at home, there were shoots of optimism in the first half.

The Foxes started brightly, but Albion worked themselves into the game and when Salomon Rondon made a darting near-post run at a corner to head in his second goal in two games, it sparked the home side into life.

The Venezuelan looked much more threatening and Stephane Sessegnon added flashes of brilliance to Albion's attack.

Defensively, he wasn't so strong, leaving Dawson outnumbered too often. The problem the Baggies have at home lies in central midfield.

Claudio Yacob and Darren Fletcher are both competent players and they've forged a nice little partnership, but they lack any drive forwards.

Both prefer to sit deep. Yacob likes to mop up play whereas Fletcher likes to pull the strings from further back.

Neither offer any goal threat and rarely do they get into the box, leaving Albion's four-man attack toothless in the face of organised teams.

Callum McManaman was only on the pitch for nine minutes, the winger won the penalty which dragged Albion back into the game.

Garde sees size of the task at Villa

Spurs 3 Villa 1

NEW Aston Villa manager Remi Garde saw his team well beaten at White Hart Lane.

Villa remain bottom of the table after their seventh straight Premier League defeat.

And despite showing the fight for a battle against relegation, they need a dramatic boost from the changing of the Garde after taking only four points from their first 11 games.

Mousa Dembele fired Tottenham ahead after only three minutes and Dele Alli made it 2-0 on the stroke of half-time. Villa surprisingly pulled one back when Jordan Ayew's 79th-minute shot was deflected but a fine strike from Harry Kane in stoppage time made sure of the win for Spurs.

Garde's was a watching brief only with the match kicking off hours after he took charge.

To add to Villa's woe, captain Micah Richards learned shortly before kick-off that he was suspended after admitting a misconduct charge from the Football Association relating to the loss against Swansea.

Without their skipper, Villa started poorly and fell behind inside three minutes. As if to highlight their many struggles, Spurs' Mousa Dembele collected a third-minute pass from Danny Rose on the left wing before cutting inside to the penalty area, easing past Ciaran Clark – starting in Richards' absence – and sending a left-footed shot through Brad Guzan's legs.

For a team so obviously bereft of confidence it seemed likely to be only the first of several goals that would soon follow.

Garde now realises the size of the task he now faces.

Manager signs new deal with Brummies

BIRMINGHAM Speedway are delighted to confirm that Graham Drury has signed a two-year extension to his contract as team manager and co-promoter.

The deal means Drury will remain with the Surestop Brummies for the 2016/17 seasons with wife Denise also back on board as Administrations Manager.

Graham and Denise are over the moon to be staying with the club following the success of 2015 .

Drury said: "First and foremost it is an absolute pleasure to know Denise and I will be back at Perry Barr for the next two seasons.

"Ourselves and Tony had a meeting last week and we simply had to be back."

★★★

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